

Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Security Council continues debates

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. Security Council agreed Friday to continue its debates on Central America and the latest tension in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. They decided, at private consultations in the office of the Security Council president, currently Jean Kirkpatrick of the United States, to hear further statements on Nicaragua's complaint against the U.S. at a session on Friday afternoon. They agreed that after a short recess, the Security Council would resume discussion of the Arab states' complaint against Israel over the situation in the West Bank. That debate began on Wednesday and was adjourned indefinitely. Mrs. Kirkpatrick told reporters she planned to let the Central America debate run on, as there were several speakers.

OPEC may call emergency meeting

ABU DHABI (R) — OPEC oil ministers will call an immediate emergency meeting unless oil companies stop trying to force Nigeria to cut its prices, OPEC President Man'a Sa'id Al Oteibi said on Friday. Dr. Oteibi, the United Arab Emirates oil minister, told reporters he had consulted fellow ministers on Thursday and Friday on Nigeria's situation. He said that unless the companies changed their stance "we will call for an extraordinary meeting immediately." OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) held emergency talks only last weekend in Vienna and decided to cut output to defend prices against a world oil glut.

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Solidarity strike staged in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Work stopped in all public and private sectors for one hour on Thursday, between 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Traffic came to a halt, and storekeepers closed their shops as an expression of solidarity with the popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories. Citizens expressed their absolute confidence in the wise and honourable stands and leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and his constant efforts to rally Arab ranks for the sake of the Palestinian cause. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, interviewed many officials and citizens who expressed their solidarity with the uprising of the "kinsmen in the occupied areas and condemnation of the Israeli arbitrary and repressive measures."

More members quit Village Leagues

AMMAN (Petra) — Residents in the occupied Arab areas continue to withdraw from the Israeli-sponsored West Bank Village Leagues after the leagues have been exposed and their links with the occupation authorities have been ascertained. The Jerusalem-based Arabic daily newspaper Al Quds on Friday published a list of the names of five people from the various parts of the occupied territories who withdrew from these leagues. Reports from the occupied territories say the Jordanian government's decision against the leagues was the motive behind the continuous withdrawal of a large number of members from them.

Retired judge named Bangladesh president

NEW DELHI (A.P.) — Bangladesh's military junta, two days after seizing power, late Friday named A.M. Choudhury, a retired supreme court chief justice, as the new president. Government-run radio Bangladesh reported that Mr. Choudhury will be sworn in as president at 3 p.m. (0900GMT) Saturday. The Bengali-language broadcast was monitored by the United News of India. (Dacca seeks ousted leaders, page 8).

Mubarak sends message to Reagan

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala left Cairo Friday for Washington carrying a message for U.S. President Reagan from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, defence ministry officials here said. Contents of the message were not disclosed. On Thursday, Lt.-Gen. Abu Ghazala was received by Mr. Mubarak.

Nixon, King Hassan hold private talks

RABAT (R) — Former U.S. President Richard Nixon, who has been on holiday in Morocco, had an 80-minute meeting with King Hassan on Friday, officials said. The meeting was private and they gave no details of the talks. Mr. Nixon is due to leave for New York on Saturday.

Yugoslav leader leaves for Africa

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (A.P.) — Hamdija Pozdarec, a member of the Yugoslav Communist Party president, left Friday for an African tour that will take him to Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zambia, the Tanjoug news agency reported. Yugoslav President Srdjan Kraigher is also on a separate Africa tour, discussing preparations for the seventh summit conference of non-aligned countries, scheduled for September in Baghdad. Mr. Kraigher has met leaders of Gabon and Nigeria, and is due to visit Guinea and Mali before returning here.

Cyprus protests at airspace violations

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Cyprus protested to the United Nations, in a letter published Friday, against alleged violations of its airspace on March 15 by Turkish air force fighters. Cypriot U.N. Representative Constantine Moushous said two separate overflights, each by two F-4 aircraft, were part of military exercises that involved infantry battalions in an area north of Skylouria in the Turkish sector of the island.

Sierra Leone president arrives for 2-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Sierra Leone President Siaka Probyn Stevens arrived in Amman on Friday afternoon for a two-day visit to Jordan during which he will have talks with His Majesty King Hussein and high-ranking Jordanian officials on international issues of mutual interest to Jordan and Sierra Leone and the developments of the situation in the Middle East as well as bilateral relations.

President Stevens was met at the airport by King Hussein, Crown Prince Hassan, the prime minister, the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, the chief of the Royal Court, the court minister, the chief chamberlain, the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, the ministers, the dean of the diplomatic corps in Amman, and senior civilian and military officials.

Haig affirms commitment to Camp David accords

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State Alexander Haig Friday reaffirmed U.S. support for the Camp David peace process as he signed an agreement on the participation of American troops in a peacekeeping force for the Sinai. The 2,500-man force composed of military personnel from 11 countries is to patrol the Sinai after Israel completes the return of the area to Egypt on April 25. The United States was the last of the 11 countries to sign an individual agreement with the director-general of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), Ray Hunt, spelling out the terms and conditions of participation in the Sinai force.

Guatemala's new junta leader says no foreign hand in coup

GUATEMALA CITY (A.P.) — The head of Guatemala's new military junta says no "foreign influence" was involved in the coup by young military officers this week.

Gen. Efraim Rios Montt, a 57-year-old general drafted Tuesday by officers who claimed the government they overthrew was corrupt and manipulated March 7 elections, declined to say when there would be new voting. The junta Thursday annulled the election.

"There is a project (on elections) being studied, but we (the junta) have not set a date," Gen. Rios Montt said in reply to a question at a news conference late Thursday.

He also indicated some public officials who worked under deposed Gen. Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia would be tried.

Gen. Rios Montt described the military uprising as "nationalist," but rejected any political labelling of the new government as of the left or right.

"There was no foreign influence in the coup, only Guatemalan influence," he said. The New York Times reported Thursday that U.S. officials were aware in January that a coup was being planned.

When asked, Gen. Rios Montt declined to say whether he had met with U.S. Ambassador Frederic Chapin, but said he understood that the coup had met with some approval in certain U.S. government circles. He did not elaborate.

U.S. officials have said they are withholding judgment on whether the junta will change Guatemala's human rights situation until they can tell who holds the real power. However, Elliot Abrams, head of the U.S. State Department's Human Rights Bureau, said the initial appraisal is that the picture will not improve.

The United States suspended military aid to Guatemala in 1977 because of the government's refusal to accept human rights conditions.

Gen. Rios Montt said earlier he would "change the image of Guatemala by means of foreign relations, especially with the United States."

He was accompanied at the Thursday news conference by the two other junta members, Gen. Eberto Maldonado Shad and Col. Francisco Luis Gordillo Martinez.

Gen. Angel Anibal Guevara, Gen. Lucas Garcia's protégé and official winner of this month's election, has been in Miami, Florida, "since before the coup," Gen. Rios Montt said.

However, other former government officials are in the country and will be investigated because the new government will be characterised by the "reign of law," he said.



His Majesty King Hussein welcomes Sierra Leone President Siaka Probyn Stevens at Amman Airport Friday (Petra photo)

The meeting was attended from the Jordanian side by Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khammash, Commander-in-Chief of the

Armed Forces, Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, President and Chairman Ali Ghaudour. The Sierra Leone foreign minister and an adviser of Pre-

sident Stevens attended the talks from the Sierra Leone side.

King Hussein later gave a dinner banquet in honour of President Stevens and his accompanying delegation.

Klibi urges European role

PARIS (R) — Chadli Klibi, head of the 22-member Arab League, was quoted Friday as saying West Europe could advance peace in the Middle East by launching its own initiative.

In an interview with the Socialist daily Le Matin, Mr. Klibi said such an initiative would awaken the United States to the impasse reached by the U.S.-sponsored Camp David process which led to an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

Mr. Klibi, interviewed at his Tunis office, said the initiative should recapture the spirit of an earlier European declaration calling for participation by the Palestine Liberation Organisation

(PLO) in peace talks.

It should then adopt the essential parts of the Saudi Arabian peace plan calling for peaceful coexistence by all parties in the region, taken by some commentators to mean a tacit recognition of Israel.

Mr. Klibi said the Arab countries wanted West Europe, and particularly France, to play a more dynamic role.

The European Economic Community (EEC), meeting in 1980 before Greece became its 10th member, issued a declaration in Venice calling for PLO involvement and saying it would review the ground for a European initiative.

Australian minister in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Tony Street arrived Friday and said Israel may have to show additional courage to achieve a Middle East peace.

Mr. Street, the first Australian foreign minister to visit Israel in 16 years, said in a brief airport statement

"Israel has already displayed great courage in pursuing its search for peace. Recent events have made it clear that demands for courage may well increase."

He said Australia's readiness to send a contingent to the Sinai peacekeeping force showed his country's commitment to the security of the Middle East.

Sultan Atrash, 100, dies

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Sultan Atrash, a well-known leader of Syria's Druze religious minority, has died at the age of 100, it was officially announced on Friday.

Mr. Atrash, from Sweida Province in southern Syria, had 10 children including Mansour Atrash, who has held several ministerial posts in Syria.

Syrian Arabs resisting the

French occupation named Sultan Atrash as "General commander of the great Syrian revolution" in 1925.

French courts sentenced him to death in absentia and he fled to Jordan where he lived for 12 years, returning to Syria after independence in 1943.

In Amman, His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable of condolences to the family of the late Arab leader.

New Canadian constitution to be handed over in April

OTTAWA (R) — Queen Elizabeth will visit Canada from April 15 to 18 to hand over its new constitution which breaks the last legal ties with Britain, it was announced Friday.

She will attend a historic ceremony to mark the occasion and will sign a proclamation bringing into force Britain's 1982 Canada act incorporating the new constitution, governor-general Ed Schreyer said in a statement.

The act will give Canada control over its constitution. It contains reforms passed earlier in Canada to its 115-year-old British constitution and was passed on Thursday in London by the House of Lords in the last act of legislation the British parliament will carry out for its former colony.

The ceremony, ending what Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has called "a last vestige of colonialism," is expected to take place on April 17 in the Senate chamber of Canada's parliament.

Weinberger presses Japan to increase defence spending

TOKYO (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger opened a campaign Friday to persuade Japan to spend more on its defence.

In a major policy speech and in a meeting with Japanese Defence Minister Soichiro Ito, and at a press conference, he said that the United States was pleased with Japan's plans to increase military spending by 7.75 per cent this year but more was needed to meet the growing threat of the Soviet Pacific fleet.

A senior U.S. official said the planned spending increase was actually worth about 4.6 per cent, after inflation was taken into account, and that a rise of at least 10 per cent was needed for Japan to protect its air space and sea lanes out to a distance of 1,000 miles from the mainland.

Mr. Weinberger, who arrived Friday on his first visit to Asia as

secretary of defence, will further press the U.S. case on Saturday in extended talks with Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and again with Mr. Ito.

He will later visit South Korea and the Philippines before returning to Washington on April 4.

In a speech to the National Press Club, Mr. Weinberger, recalling that Mr. Suzuki had said Japan would defend itself out to 1,000 miles, said this was not possible at the present level of defence spending.

According to a senior U.S. official, the United States did not intend to press Japan to spend a specific percentage of its budget on arms, but would try to reach agreement with it on the need, and then leave Japan to set a budget to meet that need.

He said, however, that the increase would have to be at least 10 per cent, in real terms.

'Repression taking racist form'

PARIS (R) — French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson said on Friday turmoil on the West Bank was taking on racist form, with Israeli settlers joining the army in firing on Arab demonstrators.

Speaking in a television interview, Mr. Cheysson also condemned "the repression launched by the Israeli authorities in the area, including the dismissal of the Arab mayors of Nablus and Ramallah."

Mr. Cheysson, who on Friday received ambassadors from seven Arab countries as well as a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said measures taken by Israel on the West Bank were "undoubtedly illegal."

Diplomats said Mr. Cheysson's remarks were some of the strongest made by an official of the Socialist administration of President Francois Mitterrand, who was in Israel earlier this month, on Israeli policy in the occupied territories.

The removal of the mayors, who had talks with Mr. Cheysson when he accompanied the president on his visit to Israel, prevented democratically-elected officials from carrying out their duties, he said.

Mr. Cheysson said television (Continued on page 3)

Protests in Acre, Nazareth against Israeli measures

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (A.P.) — Palestinian demonstrators blocked a train with a barricade of rocks Friday and anti-government incidents spread to two towns in Israel.

Arab schools in the mixed Jewish-Arab town of Nazareth in the Galilee went on strike in sympathy with Palestinian demonstrators who have held the West Bank and Gaza Strip in a man uprising for a week.

Dozens of Arabs demonstrated in the mixed population town of Acre on the Mediterranean, blocking a main road and shouting Palestinian slogans, police said. They said six arrests were made.

An Israeli driver was slightly injured by rocks thrown at his car in Arab Jerusalem, Israel Radio said.

The Tel Aviv-Jerusalem train was forced to stop because rocks were piled on the tracks near the Arab village of Batir, just outside Jerusalem, the radio said. The line runs through a narrow corridor of Israeli territory adjacent to the West Bank. Two days ago the train was stoned in the same place.

Occupation authorities stopped the distribution of three Arabic newspapers in the West Bank and Gaza, claiming some of their material had not been cleared by mil-

itary censorship. The newspapers are Al Quds, Al Fajr and Al Shaab.

Five Arabs and one Israeli soldier have been killed in the latest uprising.

Israel's civil governor of the occupied West Bank, defending the dismissal of three Palestinian mayors, said Friday Israel "would not permit the Palestine Liberation Organisation to undermine the chances for peace."

Menachem Milson, who replaced the military governor as Israel's top official in the West Bank last November, called a news conference for the foreign media and said: "Israel is engaged now in a very serious struggle against the PLO."

He described the situation as "crucial for the chances of peace in the Middle East."

The wave of protests convulsed the occupied areas after Israel dismissed the mayor of Al Birh. The Israelis followed this by ousting the mayors of Ramallah and Nablus.

Prof. Milson said Israel was "struggling against a PLO goal of wrecking negotiations for limited Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as envisioned in the Camp David peace agreement."

Jordan-PLO panel continues meetings

By Samira Kassar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for the Support of the Struggle of the Inhabitants of the Occupied Territories continued its work on Friday.

These included financial support that would compensate West Bank citizens for damages that they had suffered as a result of events during the uprising, he said.

The spokesman also pointed out that "the families of martyrs who had been killed by the Israeli occupation forces during the uprising would also receive aid." All forms of damage that could befall the people of the occupied territories would be covered by this decision to ensure support for the continuation of the uprising, he added.

The Palestinian spokesman said that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had initiated political and diplomatic contacts with all the Arab countries as of the first day of the mass uprising in the occupied territories. These contacts had been fruitful and resulted in a series of measures such as symbolic solidarity strikes taken by some Arab countries to support the uprising in the occupied territories, he said. These contacts had also resulted in coo-

peration between the Jordanian government and the PLO and led to some joint practical measures to support the popular uprising in the occupied territories, the Palestinian spokesman said.

He said that the PLO would continue its political campaign both on the Arab and international levels. This campaign had begun to show some positive results in the Arab League, some European countries and the United Nations, he said.

The spokesman predicted that the mass uprising in the occupied lands would continue due to "the determination of our people in the occupied territories to confront the Israeli occupation authorities and foil their plots."

The Jordanian side of the committee is chaired by Minister for Occupied Land Affairs Hassan Ibrahim. Also attending on the Jordanian side are Minister of the Interior Suleiman Arar and Ali Suheimat, transport minister and minister of state. The Palestinian side is chaired by Hamid Abu Sitah and also includes Khalil Al Wazir, a chief military aide to Yasser Arafat, and Dr. Hanna Naser, who is the PLO Executive Committee member responsible for education in the occupied territories.

Israelis to lift Golan blockade

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Israeli military authorities will lift their blockade of Arab villages on the Golan Heights on April 1, the Defence Ministry has announced.

But in a statement Thursday night, the ministry warned that Golan Arabs who refused to accept Israeli identity cards would be restricted in their movements.

The blockade was imposed to break a six-week-old strike by the

15,000 Golan Arabs in protest at Israel's annexation of the Syrian territory.

The Arabs, who under post-annexation law are to become permanent residents of Israel, have been told they will have to surrender the identity cards issued by occupation authorities and take Israeli papers from the interior ministry.

Golan Arab leaders issued a sta-

tement saying they would continue the strike and refuse the cards.

The blockade of the four villages has aroused protest from many quarters, saying the villagers are suffering shortages of food and heating fuel and cannot tend their flocks and apple groves — their main source of farming income. Journalists have been barred entry to the villages.

Iraqis continue attacks in Khuzestan

NICOSIA (A.P.) — A war communique broadcast by Baghdad Radio on Friday said 2,258 Iranian troops were killed in clashes in the area 125 kilometres north of Ahwaz, the capital of Khuzestan, in addition to scores of wounded or captured enemy troops.

It said the fighting was still continuing in the oil-rich province, and that the Iraqi forces also destroyed 34 Iranian tanks, 27 armoured cars and 17 other vehicles.

Iraqi war planes and helicopter gunships continued to pound Iranian columns and troop gathering along the front, "scoring direct hits and returning safely to base."

Earlier Iraqi communiques said a total of 16,000 Iranian troops had been killed and thousands others captured by Thursday in Iraqi counter-offensive to stop an Iranian onslaught in the Shush-Dezful area.

Friday's communique put Iraqi losses at 97 killed.

Bomb explosion in East Beirut kills 2

BEIRUT (R) — A bomb exploded Friday in a cinema in the eastern sector of Beirut, killing two people and injuring 20, the right-wing Falangist radio said.

The radio, organ of the right-wing militias which rule the area, said the five-kilogramme bomb had been placed under a seat in the cinema.

One of the dead and some of the injured were Egyptians, it added.

The cinema stands by a main road in a quarter inhabited mainly by Armenians.

On Thursday night a car bomb exploded in a suburb of East Beirut injuring two people. Later an explosion in a suburb of West Beirut, which is controlled by Syrian peacekeeping forces, Palestinian forces, and Lebanese leftists, wounded four people.

A series of bombings in the two sectors of Beirut and in other Lebanese towns has killed about 20 people and injured 150 since the middle of last month.

Most of the casualties have been in West Beirut.

NATIONAL

Young Ambassadors perform tonight

Envoys of an entirely different kind

AMMAN (J.T.) — Envoys of a very different kind are in Jordan to spread the message of friendship and brotherhood in an unusual way. The Young Ambassadors, a 20-member troupe of singers and dancers from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, in the United States, will perform here Saturday and Sunday.

The 120 performances of their programme show, to be staged at the Palace of Culture, will combine many lively song and dance routines with stunningly bright costumes. Entitled "I Love America," the show will highlight various aspects of American life and its cities. There will be the music and dances of Hollywood. The young artists will also recreate the romance of a Broadway show time as well as the rip-roaring fun of a Western showdown.

For more than twenty years the Young Ambassadors have been entertaining audiences around the world. Since their first international performance at Expo '74 in Osaka, Japan, two units of the group have toured throughout the United States of America, in Canada, South America, the Soviet Union, the Peoples of China, India and Sri Lanka. Their present month-long tour of the Middle

East by the United States International Communications Agency, includes visits to Turkey and Egypt, as well as Jordan. The proceeds from the performances in Jordan, where they are being presented by the Department of Arts and Culture and the Haya Arts Centre, under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, will go to the formation of children's libraries.

In all the foreign countries they have visited — more than 23 — the Young Ambassadors have del-

ighted audiences, young and old, with their fast-paced fulfilled shows. According to Randy Booth, artistic director of one Young Ambassadors group, the success of the Young Ambassadors is simply that they believe in what they sing. They truly

feel that all people can be united in peace. A favourite part of the show for the group is when they leave the stage to visit personally with audience members.

Rex Barrington, public relations director, is travelling with the group. When asked about the talent and exuberance of the Young Ambassadors he explained that their spirited showmanship does not just happen by chance.

The group maintains a rigorous rehearsal and performance schedule which gives noticeable professionalism and polish to their show. Prior to international tours the group even attends specially-designed classes to study the language and culture of the countries they will visit.

Competition for places in the troupe is intense. Last year, more than 1,200 students auditioned. Those selected are chosen not only for their singing, dancing and musical skills but also for their attitudes about life and their abilities to articulate those attitudes.

Tickets Priced JD 2, JD 1 and 500 fils are available for both performances from the Haya Arts Centre, the Jordan Artists Association, Firas Bookshop and University Bookshop, among other places.



The success of the Young Ambassadors' shows stems from the fact that they believe what they sing

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Malhas due in U.S. April 2

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas will leave for the United States on April 2 for a two-week visit to get acquainted with American methods of hospital planning and the functional relationship among the various sections of the hospital. Dr. Malhas will be accompanied on the visit by his adviser for hospital affairs, Dr. Mustafa Al Barnawi.

184,303 sheep die

AMMAN (Petra) — Some 184,303 head of sheep were slaughtered at Amman's slaughterhouse in 1981, according to a municipality spokesman. He said that 1,543 cows, 83 camels and 1,720,894 fowl had also been slaughtered at the slaughterhouse. According to the spokesman, fees collected for slaughtering, storage and transport of meat operations amounted to JD 145,691 during 1981.

Bankers elect new board

AMMAN (J.T.) — A new five-member board for the Association of Banks in Jordan was elected this week. On the new board, now chaired by Mr. Abdul Majid Shoman of the Arab Bank, are: Mr. Ziad Innab of the Industrial Development Bank, Mr. Sufian Ibrahim of the Jordan Kuwait Bank, Mr. Fakhri Bilbeisi of the International Credit and Commerce Bank and Mr. Jawad Hadid of the Jordan Arab Investment Bank. Mr. Innab was elected the board's vice chairman.

Textbook museum planned

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has

approved the establishment of a "Textbook Museum" in Salt under the administrative supervision of the Salt Community College. The new museum will include all schoolbooks which have been taught in Jordan and Palestine since 1921, and will house all Ministry of Education documents relating to education in Jordan.

Jubeiha studies park

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jubeiha Municipality and an international establishment are currently studying a project for the establishment of a public park in the Jubeiha region. Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Wednesday. Al Ra'i quoted Jubeiha Mayor Mustafa Al Lawzi as saying that the municipal council has approved the project in principle. It would be established on 63 dunums of land.

Towns to unify services

ZARQA (Petra) — The establishment of joint services centres for adjoining towns and villages in Zarqa District was discussed at a meeting here Wednesday. At the meeting, chaired by Zarqa District Governor Salem Al Quda and attended by heads of the district's municipal councils, agreement was reached in the formation of several such centres. They will be in the form of schools and social, medical and postal centres.

Villages get water network

AJLOUN (Petra) — The municipalities of Ibbilin and Ibbin have completed work on a joint water pipe network. The network, containing 15 kilometres of pipe, cost JD 60,000, a municipal statement said.

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هكذا على التلفاز

British parliamentarians leave after seeing Prince, Abu Odeh, House speaker

AMMAN (Petra) — A British parliamentary delegation on a fact-finding mission in the Middle East left Amman for the occupied territories on Friday at the end of a two-day visit.

The 12-member delegation, which arrived in Amman on Wednesday, was received on Thursday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh and Upper House of Parliament Speaker Bahjat Al Talhouni.

Prince Hassan briefed the delegation on Israel's policy of establishing settlements in the occupied Arab lands and the policy aimed at exploiting the so-called Village Leagues, sowing disunity among the Arabs of the occupied territories in order to perpetuate occupation and to impose the autonomy plan on them. He stressed to the delegation Jordan's determination to confront these schemes. The meeting was attended by British Ambassador in Amman Alan Urwick.

Mr. Abu Odeh reviewed with the visitors current events in the occupied territories and the Israeli acts of oppression of Arab citizens. He stressed that the current uprising and resistance to the Israeli occupation authorities was the

natural reaction to Israel's policy, to attempts to evacuate the land of its native inhabitants and to Israel's continued disavowal of the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Answering questions by the members of the British delegation, Mr. Abu Odeh reviewed the various aspects and intricacies of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the Arab and the international levels. He warned against world powers' failure to adopt the necessary steps to implement United Nations resolutions on the Palestinian issue, or to put an end to the Israeli aggression on the occupied Arab territories.

Mr. Talhouni reviewed with the British delegation the development of parliamentary life in Jordan, and explained to them the legislative and political authorities of both houses of parliament in Jordan.

Princess Basma returns from U.K.-Jordan society meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma returned to Amman on Friday evening after representing His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in his capacity as president of the Anglo-Jordanian Society's annual meeting. Princess Basma made a speech to the society asserting the significance of developing Jordanian-British relations.

In the speech Princess Basma called for further efforts to strengthen Arab-European relations, and to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The society's annual meeting was attended by the Duke of Kent, who is the cousin of Queen Elizabeth II and Crown Prince Hassan's counterpart in sponsoring the society; and many Arab and British personalities.

Mother's Day celebrated at Sports City

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor attended on Thursday the opening of a Mother's Day celebration organised by the Friends of Children Club in cooperation with Jordan Television, at the Palace of Culture at Al Hussein Youth City.

The celebration, which will continue for two days, will include several cultural shows and children's plays.

The opening ceremony was also attended by the Minister of Social Development Isam Al Mufri, Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni, many children and their parents.

APU secretary general stops en route to Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Parliamentary Union Secretary General Husam Al Khatib arrived in Amman on Thursday, en route to Baghdad. During his stay in Jordan, he will meet with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Al Talhouni and brief him on the union's activities and steps taken to prepare for the meetings of the council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which will be held in Lagos next month.

Answering a question by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Khatib said the aim of his visit to Iraq is to prepare for a two-day Arab Parliamentary Union meeting which will begin on Saturday, to discuss the separation of executive, legislative and judicial powers, and the impact of this separation on the democratic process in Arab countries. He said this is the first meeting of its kind organised by the union out of its desire to exchange legislative expertise among Arab parliamentarians and to consolidate democratic practices in the Arab World.

Dr. Khatib said studies and memos will be submitted to the meeting on this subject, by the various branches of the Arab Parliamentary Union, and these studies and memos will be the basis of discussion.

Parliamentary delegates from Jordan, Algeria, the United Arab

Emirates, Lebanon, Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia, the Yemeni Arab Republic, the Democratic Republic of Yemen and Iraq will participate in the meeting, Mr. Khatib said.

Bishop Sayegh to celebrate 2 special masses

AMMAN (J.T.) — The new Roman Catholic Bishop of East Jordan, Msgr. Salim Sayegh, will celebrate a special English-language mass tomorrow (Sunday, March 28), at 5 p.m., at the St. John the Baptist De La Salle (Freres) Church, Jabal Hussein. The mass is open to all interested worshippers in the community, and will be followed by a reception in the church hall. Msgr. Sayegh will also celebrate an Arabic-language mass at the same church at 9 a.m. on the same day, also to be followed by an open reception in the church hall.

Iraqi trade team meets Crown Prince



AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received at the Royal Court on Thursday an Iraqi trade delegation visiting Jordan under Iraqi Chambers of Commerce Chairman and Trade Ministry Under-Secretary Hatem Abdul Rashid (above). Crown Prince Hassan reviewed with the delegation the close relations between Iraq and Jordan in various domains, particularly trade relations. Mr. Rashid also met on Thursday with several Jordanian businessmen and

industrialists, and exchanged views on ways to expand and develop trade and economic relations between the two countries. Mr. Rashid said Jordanian agricultural produce has entered the Iraqi market in enormous quantities, and is given priority by the Iraqi government, because it has won the confidence of the Iraqi consumer. He also praised Jordan's honourable stand in supporting Iraq in its just war against Iran.

European parliamentarians learn of Palestinian refugees' plight

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Arab-European parliamentary cooperation association on Friday visited the Schenker refugee camp, where Mr. Abdul Rahim Jarar of the Occupied Territories Affairs Ministry explained to it the difficult life the refugees lead because of their absence from their homeland. He said the services rendered by the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) are below the required level because of the agency's financial difficulties.

A camp dignitary made a speech saying that the refugees' demands are known, and they will not accept anything short of a return home. "Our people will continue their struggle until their homeland is liberated," he affirmed.

The members of the delegation met on Thursday with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasem and Upper House of Parliament Speaker Bahjat Al Talhouni.

Prince Hassan detailed to the

members of the delegation, who represent the parliaments of Britain, France, the Netherlands and Italy, the Israeli policy of setting up settlements in the occupied Arab territories, the current situation and the mass uprising in the West Bank and Gaza. He also reviewed the general situation in the Middle East, stressing the need for further efforts, particularly by the European group, to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Mr. Qasem discussed with the delegation the Middle East issue and the grave developments of the current situation in the region. He explained to the members of the delegation the basic elements of Jordan's stand on the Palestinian issue and on the principles for a just solution based on total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, particularly Arab Jerusalem, and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including their right to establish a state on their national soil.

Mr. Qasem pointed to the historical responsibility that falls to Europe, to adopt an effective role in denouncing and stopping aggression and participating positively in the process of establishing peace in the region, according to the principles approved by the international community and various U.N. resolutions.

Mr. Talhouni reviewed with the members of the delegation developments in the Middle East crisis in general and the Palestinian issue in particular, the Israeli practices in the occupied territories and the Israeli authorities' aggression against the Arab people in Palestine and the Golan Heights, particularly during the current uprising.

The delegation's members expressed their understanding of the Jordanian view and of the need to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue, the overall Middle East crisis and the Lebanese issue. The meeting was attended by a number of parliament members.

'Repression taking racist form'

(Continued from page 1)

film had shown what was happening on the West Bank. "We have seen those Palestinians who are afraid, who are scared. But many are now no longer afraid to fight the troops," he added.

About 1,500 people, including officials from the French Communist Party, demonstrated outside the Israeli embassy on Friday in protest against the Israeli measures in the West Bank and Gaza.

A small group of protesters was allowed into the mission to present a petition.

U.S. State Department Spokesman Dean Fisher was quoted by the Saudi newspaper Al Jazeera, in its early Saturday edition, as expressing regret over

developments in the West Bank.

Mr. Fisher's purported statement to the newspaper's Washington correspondent translates as "it is very regrettable that elected personalities in the villages and cities of the West Bank can not perform their responsibilities and duties towards the citizens who elected them. Al Jazeera interprets the statement as meaning the United States will not support current moves by the Israeli government to replace elected West Bank officials by personalities favouring Israel's Palestinian autonomy concepts.

A spokesman of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs made a statement on Friday saying: "The government of the Kingdom of Spain follows with great concern the serious incidents which are taking place these days in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as a result of the measures taken by the Israeli authorities in the Arab occupied territories, and condemns the violence with which the demonstrations of protest have been suppressed, causing numerous

wounded and the death of many Palestinian citizens."

Egypt's government controlled radio Friday reprimanded Israel for "black violence" in the West Bank and called on the Arabs to "unite to force public opinion into helping Palestinians regain their rights."

The Turkish Government on Friday condemned Israeli actions in the occupied territories "designed to practically annex territories under her occupation and which are in violation of International Law."

In Ottawa, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau on Friday deplored rising violence and tension in the West Bank and said Canada would strongly condemn any Israeli moves to annex the Arab territory.

Mr. Trudeau was commenting at a press conference on a statement this week attributed to the Israeli ambassador to Canada, Yeshayahu Anug, that annexation might be the outcome of failure to implement the Camp David peace agreement.

Yugoslav firm prospects for NRA

There's oil in them thar hills!

By Steve Ross
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — There is definitely oil in Jordan's northeastern desert, but it will be a long time before anyone knows whether there is enough of it to make commercial exploitation feasible. Mr. Slobodan Marinkovic, one of the Yugoslav experts working for the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) on its oil exploration programme near Azraq, told the Jordan Times this in an interview after the NRA's announcement earlier this week of the discovery.

Mr. Marinkovic's firm, Nafta-Gas Exploration and Production, has been working at a test drillhole near Azraq oasis since October 1981. The hole yielded small quantities of petroleum at a depth of 2,650 metres; but drilling has been extended about 900 metres below that.

Besides the actual presence of the oil, several geophysical factors give encouraging signs of the presence of more of the precious fluid, Mr. Marinkovic said. But even if much larger quantities had been discovered in the test hole, he cautioned, it would still need a long period of testing and study before its exploitation could be declared feasible.

The Yugoslav firm is about to finish up its work at the present drilling site, he said. It will move to another hole nearby, and NRA teams will take over at the first one. With the experience of the first drillhole behind them, Mr. Marinkovic said, the drillers have an advantage at the second one. "The programme is defined for the next one by this one," he said; "... we know the 'secrets' now." Mr. Marinkovic and 35 other people from his company who are now in Jordan will remain at least until October, he said. Their contract with the NRA is for one year, renewable for two more.

Mr. Marinkovic is the commercial manager of the Department for Foreign Investments of Nafta-Gas Exploration and Production, which is one member of the Nafta-Gas group, based in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia. He said Nafta-Gas is the second largest company in his country (the largest is also concerned with petroleum). It handles everything to do with oil, "all the way from geophysics to the petrol station." Thus, if Jordan turns out to have commercial quantities of oil, Nafta-Gas would boost its activities, and could help in pumping.

Yugoslavia produces 4.5 million tonnes a year, about 25 per cent of its own requirements of petroleum, Mr. Marinkovic said. Of this, Nafta-Gas—which has two refineries—contributes about 1.5-2 million tonnes. Internationally, Nafta-Gas has taken some exploration concessions in several countries in addition to Jordan. The largest job is in Algeria, where the Yugoslav firm is exploring an area of 12,000 square kilometres in a partnership with the government organisation Sonatrach. In some countries, Nafta-Gas shares concessions. Mr. Marinkovic mentioned Angola, where his company is cooperating with French and Italian firms.

In Jordan, Nafta-Gas' work is on the basis of a contract rather than a concession. The NRA had already done the geophysical work, Mr. Marinkovic said; the Yugoslavs were brought in to do the drilling.

This is the second time Nafta-Gas has worked in this country. It had a crew here between 1969 and 1972, Mr. Marinkovic said, wor-

king with INA—also a Yugoslav firm. The two companies drilled several test wells—one of them very near to the current hole—but without success. That earlier project was financed by the Yugoslavs themselves.

The Yugoslav team's drilling equipment is provided by Ideco, an American company. Other international firms providing services at the drillhole include the U.S. Dowell, France's Schlumberger and the U.K.'s Milchem. All work at the site, how-

ever, is supervised by personnel from the NRA. Mr. Marinkovic mentioned that all these Jordanian experts had been trained in Yugoslavia.

Nafta-Gas is training "a great many" Jordanians under its contract, he said. Some of them also end up working for the Yugoslav firm. Mr. Marinkovic mentioned one Jordanian who had married a Yugoslav woman, and is now the chief engineer in charge of one of the company's drilling sites in Yugoslavia.

Red Crescent blasts Israel

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian National Red Crescent Society Thursday condemned the Israeli practices against the Arab residents of the occupied territories. Society President Ahmad Abu Qoura said the barbaric acts by the occupation authorities against the Arab residents of the occupied areas are a blatant violation of international law and the fourth Geneva Convention.

He said the dissolution of Al Bireh municipal council was a barefaced violation of Article 54 of the fourth Geneva Convention, and repressive measures against youth and civilians violated Article 47 of the same convention.

Dr. Abu Qoura said the Jordanian Red Crescent would work



Ahmad Abu Qoura

through international channels, including contact with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to provide protection for the Arabs in Palestine.

Today's weather

It will be partly cloudy and cold, with a chance of scattered showers and northerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	5	10
Aqaba	14	21
Deserts	6	14
Jordan Valley	11	18

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 9, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 87 per cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.

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- * Twenty-five Years of French Rock, at the French Cultural Centre.
- * International painters, at the Amman Marriott Hotel.

Film

- * Judo Sugata, Japanese film with Arabic sub-titles, at the Amman Chamber of Industry at 5 p.m. Followed by documentary, Japan Today.

The Young Ambassadors

- * Song and dance show, starts at the Palace of Culture, Al Hussein Youth City at 6 p.m. Tickets JD 2, JD 1 or 500 fils.

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Inflation in Jordan: A reappraisal

By Dr. Adeb Haddad

As a monetary economist, I have felt bound to take the opportunity of venturing a few concepts and comments about inflation in a developing country like Jordan, after I read some interesting columns written by specialists in the Jordan Times. Perhaps this will lead us to a better understanding of the inflationary process in Jordan.

In the spirit of scientific investigation for purposes of policy making, I would like to expose the following questions: What are the causes of inflation in Jordan? Why does it happen? And how can it be prevented, stopped or at least constrained?

At the very outset, it is important to stress that I do not believe any one desires a continuation of the inflationary trend in this country. Inflation — i.e., continuing increases in the average level of prices — has traditionally been seen as an urgent economic problem. This problem has been intensified in recent years, and our understanding of economic mechanisms involved has been deepened and broadened.

Clearly, however, we cannot do anything fruitful in the way of stopping inflation or at least of keeping it within a limit rate until we know why it happens. To explain why some economic problems or phenomena happen, we, the economists, start by formulating a set of relationships which suffice to determine the economic variables that relate to the problem to be explained. For instance, the appropriate model set up for dealing with the causes of inflation would be set of relationships which determine the continuous upward movement in the rate of inflation.

Theory & practice

However, given the structural

features of developing economies and the absence of systematic analysis of economic behaviour in developing countries, we may pose here the following basic analytic questions: Is it possible that the theoretical relationships formulated to explain economic behaviour in the developed economies are applicable to developing economies? If so, how much are they?

Basically, no one would seriously deny that the institutional and structural characteristics of the two types of economy are widely different. But, as Schumpeter pointed out, it seems unlikely that such differences would render ineffective the economic theory in developing countries. Thus, due to the peculiarities of each developing economy, necessary modifications should be taken into account. In addition, the choice of any relevant theory to the economic conditions of developing economies is a problem of empirical evidence rather than a direct counterpart of the theoretical concept.

Having, fairly, settled the debate of the relevant economic theory to developing countries, I turn now to venture an interesting question, namely, what would be the most appropriate model of inflationary process in Jordan?

From an economic analysis point of view, many economists have questioned the applicability of the "single equation approach" in both the developed and developing economies. It has been argued that, except in a case of a some extremely closed economies, neither simple regression technique nor multiple regression technique can be used to isolate the impact of each economic factor on the level of inflation. A single equation approach relating, for example, the domestic price level (or rate of inflation) to world prices and or money supply ignores

the impacts of other variables because this approach does not require detailed knowledge of the structure of the economy, i.e., it is geared to aggregate economic factors.

Accordingly, it has been generally recognised that the simultaneous equation approach — structural model of the economy — is much better than single equation approach because the former specifies a separate functional relationship for each economic factor and is not subject to the equation bias and misspecification errors. This is true, as I understand it, since the essence of the economic theory is the interdependence of economic phenomena and the determination of the values of economic variables by simultaneous interaction of relationships.

Furthermore, a single equation approach of inflation concentrates on the classical quantity theory in which money supply is determined by policy action, and inflation is extremely a monetary phenomenon. Recently, however, a number of empirical studies have argued that, in an open economy, money supply is no longer determined by policy decisions because of the feedback effects from the balance of payments (external factors) and the government budget position (internal factors) to the monetary liabilities.

Nevertheless, to avoid various defects inherent in a single equation approach, I have constructed a dynamic simultaneous equation model of inflationary process in Jordan. The particular feature of the model is its focus on the external and internal causes of inflation.

Inflationary model

The model consists of four stochastic equations determining the

following variables: the rate of inflation, the inflow of imports, real government expenditures, and real government revenues. Also, it consists of three identities: the supply of money, the change of foreign assets, and the government budget deficit.

Having to do with the proper specification of dependent and independent variables, the choice of these variables is guided strongly by the econometric experimentation in identifying variables that the theory does not specifically identify. That is, for each structural equation various forms of specification are examined and the theory is used to support the different specifications of each equation.

The empirical evidence of the estimated equations indicates that our model appears to perform quite satisfactorily in explaining the inflationary process in Jordan in the short run as well as the long run. It is clearly shown that Jordan's inflation is due to both the internal and external factors.

Specifically, the analysis shows that before 1974, Jordan experienced a moderate rate of inflation — always less than 10 per cent annum —, and external factors played a small role in the price increases. In contrast, the rate of inflation accelerated quite rapidly in 1974 and 1976. This was attributable largely to external factors, i.e., the rate of inflation of these years was largely imported.

However, although the rate of inflation after 1974 was dampened, the domestic factors exerted upward pressure on prices in most years. This is to say that the effect of domestic factors was estimated to be a large increase in the domestic price level after 1974. In addition, the rate of inflation was slightly explained by the lagged effects of the past inflation among the other variables.

The findings of our model, thus,

are the following:

First, imports and government expenditures would adjust very quickly to keep in line with increase in price level, so that inflation in Jordan is due to both internal and external factors. Actual imports and expenditures adjust to changes in demand for imports and expenditures within the same year (the period of observation) in order to keep pace with inflation; this implies an average time lag for the adjustment coefficient of 0.58 for imports and 0.51 for expenditures is quite large. However, the effectiveness of external factors in the rate of inflation is slightly more than the effectiveness of internal factors.

Second, government expenditures adjust faster than government revenues in response to inflation. The longer time lag required for government revenues to adjust to inflation is mainly attributed to the presence of long lags in tax collection in Jordan.

This result leads to the conclusion that as the nominal income rises, there will be an increasing divergence between government expenditures and revenues. That is, the rate of inflation is speeded up when the amount of time it takes government expenditures to adjust to inflation is shortened, or when the amount of time it takes government revenues to adjust is lengthened.

Third, in any event, the impact of an increase in imports and budget deficit or trade deficit would increase the money supply to finance these deficits and thereby generate further inflation in Jordan, and then the process will be repeated.

Fourth, it is interesting to mention that credit expansion was estimated to have a slight impact on inflation.

In order to determine the relative importance of the internal and external channels in influencing the rate of inflation in Jordan, I have also simulated a reduced form model. The empirical results indicate that the government budget deficit and trade deficit have the dominant influence on the rate of inflation. Both factors explain about 92 per cent of the variations in the rate of inflation. It takes a very short period for excess demand for imports effect or excess demand for government expenditures effect to get spilled into the domestic price level.

Nevertheless, a direct transmission of inflation via internationally traded goods has a relatively larger influence as indicated by the size of the coefficients of correlation between the actual and the simulated values of related variables.

According to our empirical evidence, the control of inflation requires an accurate action by the fiscal authority to alleviate the budget deficit as well as improving tax collection.

Another method for controlling inflation is that bank credit should be extended more to the industrial and agricultural sectors rather than to the less productive trade sector where credit is now concentrated. It is noted that the control of the quality of credit not the volume of credit is required to restrain Jordan's inflation.

Another most workable method for controlling inflation in Jordan is that trade policy should be reassessed to encourage the import of capital goods which contribute to Jordan's development plans over import of unproductive luxury and durable goods.

It is my hope that our interpretation of Jordan's inflation may help to get under way a discussion of a more scientific character than was usual so far about the inflationary process in Jordan as well as the other Arab countries.

America's peace

THE RELATIONSHIP between the Israeli-backed village leagues in the occupied territories, the Camp David "autonomy" plan and the most recent Israeli sacking of three Palestinian municipal councils and mayors in the West Bank are becoming increasingly obvious for all to see. Despite the fact that the Camp David "autonomy" plan was rejected outright by the Palestinians from the start, the Americans, Israelis and Egyptians pushed ahead with it, and continue to do so, with the aim of trying to implement the self-governing authority by force. The major constraint on the plan, however, has been the total lack of Palestinian quibblings to go along with the idea. Therefore the Israelis and Americans, both of whom have shown themselves to be impervious to the strictures of both reality and honour, created — or thought they did — a collection of malleable Palestinian hirelings. The mayors of Birah, Nablus and Ramallah have now been removed by Israel and replaced by Israeli military officers (which reminds us of the campaign slogans of the American president, Mr. Ronald Reagan, to the effect that Israel has to be supported because it is the only democracy in a sea of tyranny, or something of that sort: remember, Ronald?)

The next phase of the soulless drama (besides proposed American aid to Israel of \$2.485 billion in 1983, the single-largest American bilateral aid programme in the world) seems to be the activation of the self-governing authority by a combination of appointed Israeli military officers and village league desperados, with not a single legitimate Palestinian leader or self-respecting Palestinian national in sight. And we shall have peace... as the Americans brought peace to Vietnam.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Evading responsibilities

AL RA'I: The aggressive war and the military acts of repression being practiced by the Israeli occupation authorities against our people in the occupied territories have taken a new and grave turn with the dismissal of Mr. Bassam Al Shak'a and Mr. Kareem Khalaf from their posts.

The situation in the occupied territories has been aggravated further because the United Nations Security Council has postponed its deliberations on the Arab complaint against the Israeli practices. This postponement is an unjustifiable act of evading the responsibility of the U.N. Security Council. International reactions which condemned the Israeli measures have also evaded supporting the imposition of any punishment on Israel. Despite its condemnation of the Israeli practices, France has declared that it will abstain from voting at the Security Council if the proposed resolution calls for imposing sanctions against Israel.

It is clear that Western observers do not hide their belief that the Council will not play a real role in handling the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories. These expected results will only encourage Israel to proceed with its aggressive war against the West Bank and Gaza. The U.S. policy bears the greater share of responsibility for these continued Israeli practices because the U.S. veto is always there to protect Israel.

In view of these facts, it is clear that waiting for an international action to deter the Israeli practices is like chasing a mirage. Hence, the Arabs have one option, of depending on themselves in confronting the escalating Israeli challenge. They must take speedy measures to support our steadfast people in the occupied territories, unite and build their strength.

Tanks against children

AL DUSTOUR: The arbitrary Israeli military authorities' dismissal of Nablus and Ramallah mayors and the dissolution of Al Birah Municipal Council will never be able to change the reality that the uprising of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza is profound enough that these people not only insist on rejecting the conspiracy of the civilian administration but are also firm in their determination to resist and confront the Israeli occupation.

The Israeli measures can only prove that the enemy authorities have lost their nerve because they have failed to subdue the will of the Palestinian people and their heroic struggle against the soldiers of the Israeli military occupation. The dismissal of the mayors will never affect these people's will to fight. On the contrary, this Israeli measure has driven the Palestinian people to escalate their resistance forcing Israeli occupation officials to call on the support of paratroopers and tanks to besiege Palestinian cities and villages and to confront the brave Palestinian women, old men and children who are fighting to defend their rights, existence and sacred cause.

Our steadfast people will continue their strike and their resistance, particularly in the Villages where agent leagues operate. The Israeli measure is a flagrant defiance to the U.N. Security Council. It also defies the United Nations and the international will.

The strange thing is that the Arab states are keeping silent on what is taking place in the West Bank and Gaza. Their statements of support and denunciation will not be able to save the Palestinians who are waging a battle for their freedom in the West Bank and Gaza. We call on the Arab states to abandon their silence and to take action, or at least to move on the diplomatic level, to help our steadfast people in the occupied territories before it is too late.

U.S.-U.N. relations sour

By Michael Littlejohns
Reuter

UNITED NATIONS — If the United States is ignored, despised and reviled in the United Nations as U.S. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick claims, Americans in growing numbers seem to be just as negative about the United Nations.

"Get the U.S. out of the U.N." signs have long been a feature in the hinterland. Right-wing groups have been gunning for the organisation for years.

Lately, voices that were hitherto more moderate and even sympathetic to the U.N. have been raised in criticism — among them, three recent democratic secretaries of state.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose appointment to succeed Kurt Waldheim was portrayed by Mrs. Kirkpatrick as offering hope for better times, is pained by the attacks but has not yet responded publicly.

Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart, Mr. Perez de Cuellar's most senior adviser, said bluntly however that criticisms of the U.N. displayed "great ignorance." In a television interview, he said that some Americans and other Western critics simply cannot get used to the changed global geopolitical map.

As nobody seemed able to solve the world's problems, "it's nice to have an institution to blame," he said, adding that the U.N. filled that role beautifully.

Mr. Urquhart said the organisation was essential to all its members, "especially to the great ones." They, in particular, should not forget that it was the place they always came to when they were on collision course and wanted to avert a crash — "when they are scared stiff... and people really see the abyss looming."

Mrs. Kirkpatrick told a conference of the American Legion, a predominantly conservative group, that the U.N. exacerbates and extends conflicts instead of resolving them and, on the whole, is "a very dismal show."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar rejected

the contention. Mr. Urquhart said the American delegate did not have a very good argument. After Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights in December, was it better, Mr. Urquhart asked rhetorically, to have the U.N. General Assembly debate the Golan affair and adopt a resolution censuring the Israelis, or see Israel and Syria go to war?

The resolution against the Israelis — who, Mrs. Kirkpatrick says, are treated like pariahs — caused Mayor Edward Koch of New York to call the organisation immoral, hypocritical and cowardly.

He also charged that the Third World states which make up the bulk of the membership are subservient to the Soviet Union.

"Nonsense," Mr. Urquhart replied. He advised the Mayor to study the voting records. "I think one has got to remember that the U.N. is in New York and that obviously the politics of New York and the politics of the United States are therefore a relevant factor in the way people react to U.N. decisions," he said. "We should not be too distracted by that."

Militant U.S. supporters of Israeli policies evidently are behind some of the severest criticisms of the United Nations. There are a good many of them in New York, more of whose citizens are Jewish than there are Israelis in all of Israel, and where ethnic and politics traditionally go hand in hand.

The American Jewish Committee helped to assemble the latest negative report, which former secretaries of state Cyrus Vance, Edmund Muskie and Dean Rusk endorsed.

So did Henry Cabot Lodge, who was President Eisenhower's campaign manager and the chief U.N. delegate from 1953 until 1960, when he ran unsuccessfully for vice president.

This group urged the Reagan administration to reassess its policy towards the U.N., whose Third World majority, the report asserted, frequently imposed grossly biased resolutions.

The authors denounced both the General Assembly and the Security Council which, they said, "has repeatedly failed to act against, condemn, or even consider" several threats to peace.

Another group, the Right-Wing Heritage Foundation, found even more fault. A study conducted by a team led by Dr. Juliana Pilon described the U.N. as senile. Their wrath at the U.N. would be even greater if Americans realised how much they paid for it, she said.

Under an assessment system, the U.S. is mandated to contribute 25 per cent of the regular U.N. budget, compared to the Soviet Union's 13 per cent, the second largest amount.

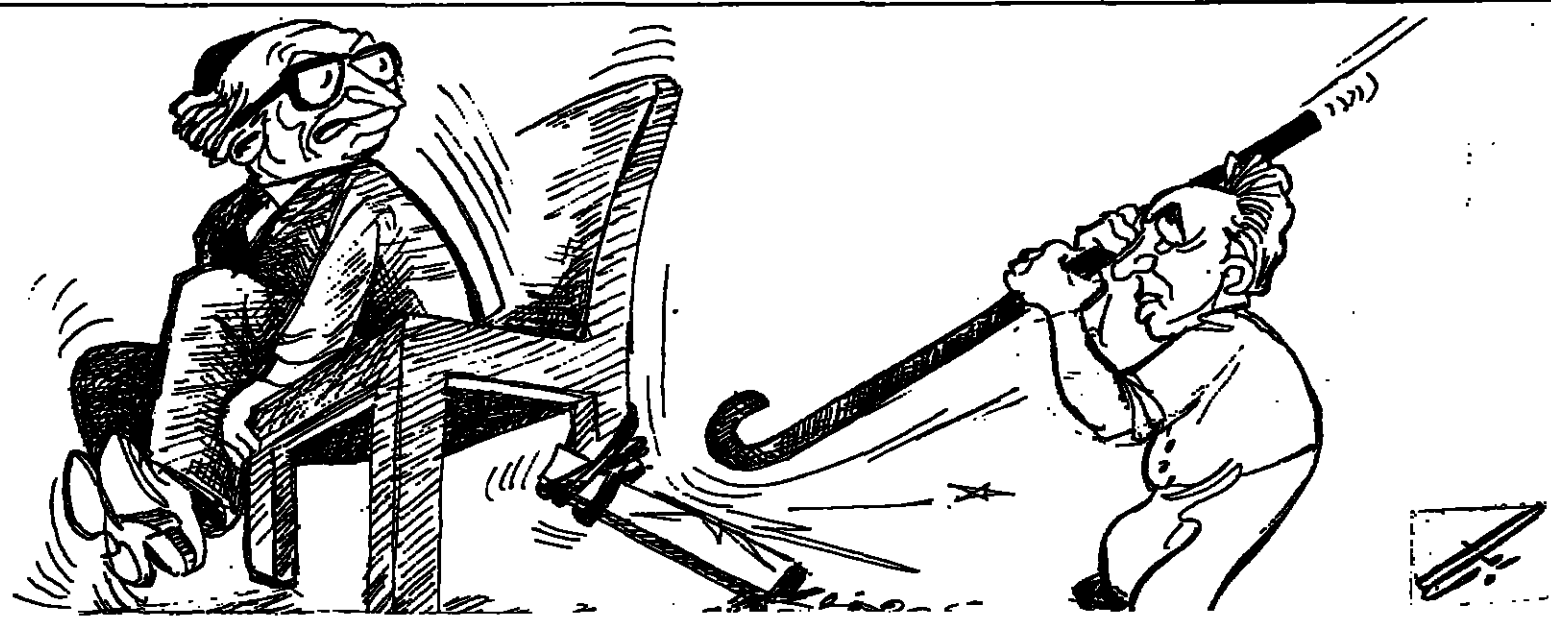
On top of that, the U.S. government has handed over huge voluntary donations for various U.N. programmes, including peacekeeping. Moscow's gifts have been small and irregular, and often in non-convertible and therefore unusable roubles.

Dr. Pilon estimated that from 1964 to 1980 the U.N. cost U.S. taxpayers \$10 billion and last year alone U.S. regular and voluntary contributions totalled \$830 million.

According to Mrs. Kirkpatrick, the U.S. is not happy about having to underwrite an organisation it finds sadly wanting. But in her remarks to the American Legion she stopped short of threatening financial reprisals against the U.N.

The criticisms of a free-spending U.N. are "a little bit off," according to Mr. Urquhart. Citing peacekeeping operations, his own field as under secretary-general for special political affairs, he said that the recently beefed-up U.N. force in southern Lebanon, for example, costs \$100 million every six months. "That is chickenfeed by comparison with the cost of an outbreak even of a small limited conflict in the Middle East," he said. "In absolute terms, it is nothing."

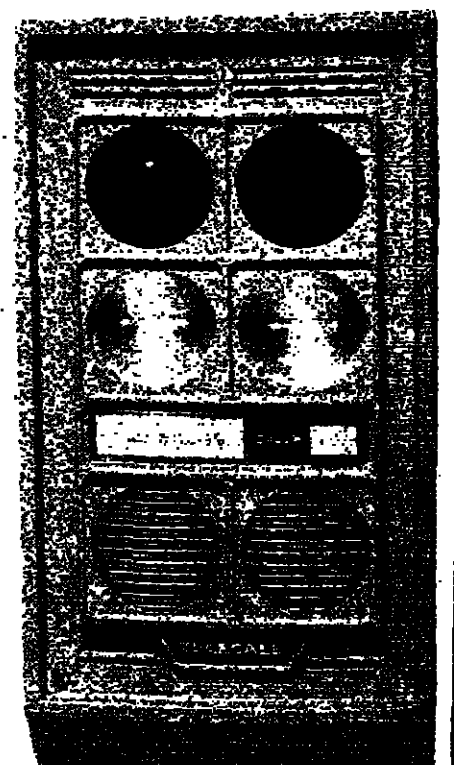
Still, many Americans remain unimpressed and U.N. officials acknowledge that regaining U.S. confidence could be an uphill struggle.



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ECONOMY

Gold fever in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (A.P.) — A gold buying epidemic has hit Bahrain—the oil-rich Gulf area's economic thermometer—amid sober predictions about the impact of the area's almost total dependence on oil revenues.

Gold trading in this entrepreneurial Gulf island of 380,000 inhabitants said the gold buying fever was of a magnitude similar to that reported earlier in Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, where all forms of gold were being bought as soon as new shipments were offered on the market. Traders were quoted by the Arabic-language newspaper Akhbar.

Al-Khaleej as attributing the demand to declining gold prices, which they said was precipitated by Soviet sales and to uncertainties about the short-term future of oil revenues.

"Saudis, Kuwaitis and westerners were the main buyers before the price dropped," said Abbas Abdullah of Family Jewellers store, "but now Bahrainis and other nationalities are buying, with an average of \$2650-\$3975 per single order." Bahrain was the first Gulf country where oil was found half a century ago. With reserves down and daily production now at a mere 45,000 barrels a day, it stands as a graphic

example or other oil producers.

"Gulf countries are clearly affected by any oil market glut small or big, because oil is for most of them the sole source of income," said Akhbar Al Khaleej. "But our moves to lessen dependence on oil have been weak, with revenues tied in easy return cash investments abroad and on similar and harmfully competitive industries which we do not need."

A draft budget announced by Bahrain earlier this year foresaw no deficits in 1982.

EEC farmers get price rise

STRASBOURG, France (R) — The European Parliament voted Friday in favour of a 14 per cent price rise for the European Economic Community's (EEC) eight million farmers.

The vote represented a sharp rebuff for the EEC commission proposals for a nine per cent average price rise and will give a boost to EEC farmers in their bid to secure substantially increased prices for their products this year.

The commission has said a 14 per cent increase this year could lead to the imminent exhaustion of EEC funds, but farmers have insisted a 16 per cent price rise is justified.

EEC agriculture ministers are due to begin a three-day meeting in Brussels on Wednesday where they will strive to bridge the deep differences between the community's 10 member states over the issue.

The assembly passed by 170 votes to 120 a clause in a motion prepared by its agriculture committee calling for the 14 per cent increase this year.

Strike hits Belgian industry

BRUSSELS (R) — Thousands of Belgian workers downed tools Friday in the second nationwide 24-hour strike against government economic policies in six weeks, bringing several industrial towns to a standstill.

But support for the strike—called by the powerful one-million-member socialist trade union—appeared to be markedly lower than the organisers had

hoped, and political sources said it signalled that opposition to the ruling centre-right coalition's tough programme could be dwindling.

Organisers said the strike found strongest support in the depressed steel town of Liege, traditionally a centre of union militancy, and was heavily-backed in Charleroi, Mons and other southern industrial towns.

Many factories in the French-

speaking south were silent, work at normally busy port of Antwerp was disrupted, the coal mines of eastern Belgium were down to half-working, and in a number of places bus and train services were suspended.

Police said about 7,500 people demonstrated in the centre of Antwerp and a few hundred marched through Brussels, but in both cases without incident.

Poland to reschedule debt payments

FRANKFURT (R) — Poland appears to have cleared the way, more than three months behind schedule, for signing an agreement to reschedule payments of some \$2.4 billion in debt owed to 501 Western banks.

Dresdner Bank, the West German bank co-ordinating the rescheduling, said Friday that the Polish authorities appeared to

have fulfilled their latest pledge to meet outstanding interest payments by Friday. Paying the interest was a pre-condition set by the banks to reschedule the debt which fell due in 1981.

In a brief statement, it said that nearly all the interest due had been received by the banks but due to technical difficulties completion could be verified only at

the beginning of next week. "We presume, however, that we will be able to send out invitations for a signing of the rescheduling agreement in Frankfurt on April 6," it said.

Poland has been gradually paying its interest arrears, which had amounted to about \$500 million when martial law was imposed there on December 13.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — End account factors made for slow trading and equity prices drifted lower Friday dealers said. At 1500 GMT the F.T. index was down 4.7 to 555.2.

Sterling weakness against the dollar prompted an opening markdown in government bonds but they met little selling pressure and prices held steady at the lower levels, up to ¼ point below Thursday's close.

Barclays and Natwest both shed 5p though Midland ended unchanged on balance. GEC fell 10p to 809 and both Thorn and Plessey gave up 8p. U.S. and Canadian shares were generally higher.

Gold shares ended narrowly mixed and in diamonds De Beers was eight cents down at 397 after 390.

Metal Box shed 12p to 162 after announcing 1200 planned job losses due to continuing low demand. Lucas fell 5p to 191 on further consideration of Thursday's interim results. Other engineering leaders were weak, Tubes, GKN, Hawker Siddeley and British Aerospace all lost between 2p and 4p. ICI and Glaxo both ended 4p lower.

Leading oils edged higher, with B.P., Shell and Ultramar up 4p to 6p.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.7870/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2272/75	Canadian dollars
	2.3978/88	West German marks
	2.6550/80	Dutch guilders
	1.9090/9100	Swiss francs
	45.25/28	Belgian francs
	6.2640/90	French francs
	1316.00/50	Italian lire
	247.45/65	Japanese yen
	5.9010/30	Swedish crowns
	6.1000/25	Norwegian crowns
	8.1750/75	Danish crowns
Once ounce of gold	323.25/323.75	U.S. dollars

China assures U.S. businessman on future of industrial cooperation

PEKING (R) — American businessman Armand Hammer said Friday China's leaders had assured him that his petroleum company's ambitious plans to cooperate with Chinese industry will not be affected by current Sino-U.S. coolness over Taiwan.

He told reporters after an hour-long meeting with party Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping that Mr. Deng said the Chinese would not compromise on the issue of continuing U.S. arms sales to the nationalist government on Taiwan.

He quoted Mr. Deng as saying: "There is no room for give on that question, but as far as our business is concerned it will not affect our relations."

Dr. Hammer's Occidental Petroleum Corporation signed an agreement with China Thursday for a feasibility study it expects will lead to a joint venture to develop one of the world's largest coalmines at Pinghuo, west of Peking.

He said he discussed with Mr. Deng further cooperation in the fields of oil, chemicals and in particular chemical fertilisers, agriculture and livestock.

"The vice-chairman said they will cooperate with U.S. in every way. Their policy is to encourage foreign investment," Dr. Hammer added.

The 83-year-old businessman, who as a young man pioneered U.S. trade with the Soviet Union,

said the subject of Sino-Soviet relations did not come up. But he said Mr. Deng questioned him closely.

Earlier, speaking to Mr. Deng in front of reporters in the great hall of the people, Dr. Hammer praised China's modernisation.

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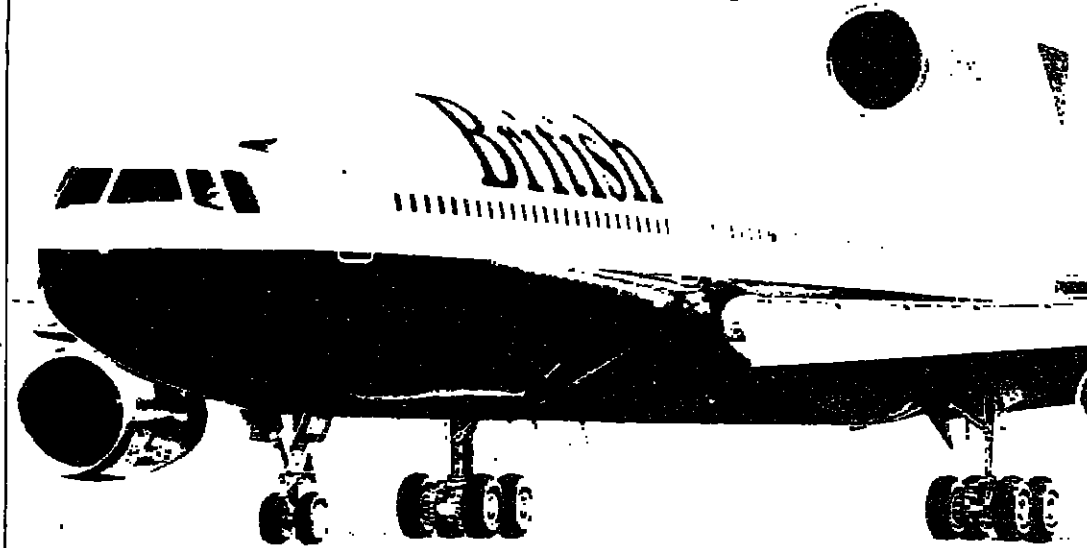
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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30	Koran
5:59	Cartoons
6:10	Rainbow
7:20	P.G. and the Bear
7:30	Local Programme on Agriculture
8:00	News in Arabic
8:30	Arabic Series
9:30	Local Programme
10:15	Arabic Play
11:00	News in Arabic
11:10	Arabic Play Continues

CHANNEL 6

6:00	French Programme
7:00	News in French
7:30	News in Hebrew
7:45	Varieties
8:00	News in Arabic
8:30	M.A.S.H.
8:55	Doctor
9:20	Saturday Variety Show
10:00	News in English
10:15	Feature Film: "Rodeo Girl"

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM

7:00	Sign on
7:01	Morning Show
7:30	News Bulletin
7:40	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Eternal Jerusalem
11:00	Sign off
12:00	News Headlines
12:03	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:03	Radiotheque
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Instruments
14:30	Over a Cup of Tea
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:03	Instruments
16:30	Old Favorites
17:00	Melody Time
17:30	In Concert
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Play of the Week
19:00	News

19:30 Top Twenty
20:30 Classical Music
21:00 Old Favourites
22:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT

04:00	Newsdesk
04:30	Bac-tracking
04:45	Financial News
05:00	Classical Music
05:15	World News: British Press Review
05:30	World News: New Ideas
05:45	Book Choice
05:55	The World Today
06:00	Newsdesk
06:30	Terry Wogan's Album Time
07:00	World News: News about Britain
07:15	From the Weeklies
07:30	Music for Harpsichord
07:45	Network U.K.
08:00	World News: Reflections
08:15	Peoples' Choice
08:30	Rhythm 'n' Roots
08:45	World News: British Press Review
09:00	World News: New Ideas
09:15	The World Today
09:30	Financial News
09:40	Look Ahead
09:45	Science in Action
10:15	About Britain
10:30	O Henry
11:00	World News: News about Britain
11:15	World News: The Week in Wales
11:30	Meridian
12:00	Radio Newsreel
12:15	Anything Goes
12:45	Sports Round-up
13:00	World News: Commentary
13:15	Network U.K.
13:30	Opera Gallery
13:45	Strictly Instrumental
14:15	The Instrument Makers
14:30	Rhythm 'n' Roots
15:00	Radio Newsreel
15:15	Saturday Special
16:00	World News: Commentary
16:15	Saturday Special
17:00	News Summary
17:30	Sports Round-up
18:00	World News: News about Britain
18:15	Radio Newsreel
18:30	Play of the Week: Towards the End of the Morning
20:00	World News: Commentary
20:15	Goods Booth
20:30	Captain Jack
21:15	Twentieth Century Folk
21:30	People and Politics
22:00	World News: From Our Own Correspondent
22:30	New Ideas
22:40	Reflections
22:45	Sports Round-up
23:00	World News: Commentary
23:15	Letterbox
23:30	Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT
03:00 The Breakfast Show: 15:00

News and This Week 15:30 Press Conference USA 16:00 Special English: News, Words, and Their Stories, Feature: Short Stories 16:30 New York, New York 17:00 Weekend 18:00 Special English 18:30 New York, New York 19:00 News and This Week 19:30 Press Conference USA 20:00 Special English: news/words and their stories 20:15 Music USA (Jazz) 21:00 Weekend

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided to the Jordan Times by the Airline information department at Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

ARRIVALS:

8:00	Cairo (EA)
8:55	Agaba
9:00	Cairo
9:30	Jeddah
9:40	Dhahran
9:45	Kuwait
9:50	Karachi, Dubai
10:00	Doha, Bahrain
10:10	Beirut
10:15	Abu Dhabi
11:05	Abu Dhabi (Swissair)
11:05	Riyadh (Saudi)
17:00	Cairo
17:45	Copenhagen, Athens
17:45	New York, Vienna
18:05	London (BA)
18:05	Rome (Alitalia)
18:50	Copenhagen, Athens (SAS)
20:25	Cairo (EA)
20:30	Beirut (MEA)
20:30	Frankfurt
00:20	Cairo (EA)
01:00	Baghdad
01:00	Cairo
02:00	Baghdad

DEPARTURES:

3:00	Cairo
6:15	Frankfurt (LH)
6:45	Beirut
7:00	Agaba
7:40	Damascus, Paris (AF)

9:00	Cairo (EA)
9:00	Beirut (MEA)
10:00	Frankfurt
11:00	Vienna, New York
11:30	Cairo
11:45	Geneva, Brussels
11:55	Athens, Zurich (Swissair)
12:00	London
12:05	Riyadh (Saudi)
12:30	Paris
12:15	Tripoli, Tunis
19:00	Kuwait
19:30	Jeddah
19:30	Cairo
20:15	Baghdad
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai
21:15	Cairo (EA)
22:00	Baghdad
01:15	Cairo (EA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Amman:
Hassan Kamal 56711/24794
Mazen Hajjawi 51968

Zarga:
Sami Al Ma'ayteh (Al Sukhneh Road)
Azzam Al Madani 85238

Irbid:
Umar Qasrawi 35157/3321

PHARMACIES:
Amman:
Nairoukh 23672
Halal 71110
Duwani 21381
Shadi 25655
Khalaf 38653

Zarga:
Anas (—)

Irbid:
Al Quds 3443

TAXIS:
Taxi 44660
Al Neil 44433
Tariq 23024
Shmeisani 65294
Asem 66503

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520

British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 65195
Al Hussein Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41993
Y.W.M.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355/84366

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed on Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics,

and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Munatazah. Jabal Luwibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Tel. 30128

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation

(Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwibdeh 37440
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman 24590
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein 66428
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali 23541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman 23585
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh 75261
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh 71331

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shm-eisani 63249

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr	4:07
Sunrise	5:30
Dhuhr	11:40
Asr	3:12
Maghreb	5:54
Isha	7:00

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal	101.7/102
Lebanese pound	71.1/72.1
Syrian pound	57.6/58.2
Iraqi dinar	665.8/674.2
Kuwaiti dinar	1218.7/1224
Egyptian pound	345.3/348.5
Qatari riyal	95.2/95.8

UAE dirham	94.6/95.3
Omani riyal	1006/1008
U.S. dollar	346.5/348
U.K. sterling	627.2/631
W. German mark	145.1/146.8
Swiss franc	183.5/183.6
French franc	55.5/55.8

Italian lire	(for every 100)	26.6/26.8
Japanese yen	(for every 100)	142.5/143.4
Dutch guilder	(for every 100)	132/132.8
Swedish franc	(for every 100)	77.3/77.8
Swedish crown	(for every 100)	59.3/59.7

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	75111
Civil Defence rescue	61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	71125-6-7-8
Police headquarters	39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police. (English spoken)	21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA)	92205/92206
Jordan Television	73111
Radio Jordan	74111
Firstaid, fire, police	199

Fire headquarters 22090
Cablegram or telegram 18

Telephone:

Information 12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls 16
Overseas radio and satellite calls 17
Telephone maintenance and repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Tomatoes	
Eggplant (small)	
Potatoes (imported)	
Marrow (small)	
Marrow (large)	
Cucumber (small)	
Cucumber (large)	
Hot Green Pepper	
Sweet Pepper	
Sweet Pepper	
Cabbage	
Onions (dry)	
Green onions	
Spinach	
Coconut (piece)	
Beans	
Beans	
Beans (Mukhammar)	
Peas	

SPORTS

Ethiopian Kedir, star race attraction at Five Mills

MILAN, Italy (R)—Mohammed Kedir of Ethiopia, winner of the world cross-country championship in Rome on Sunday, will be the star attraction at the Five Mills race near here on Sunday.

The 28-year-old champion can expect tough opposition over the 9.5-kilometre course at San Vittore Olona, which gained its name from the five water mills marking the route when the race began 50 years ago.

New Zealand's Rod Dixon and Hans-Joerg Kunze of East Germany, third and fourth in Rome, will be on the starting line as will Australia's Robert de Castella, 10th in the world championship.

"The Ethiopians are strong but the party must end for them some time," Dixon, 31, told reporters. "At Rome I made the mistake of holding back too long."

Britain's challenge will be led by Mike McLeod, fifth last Sunday,

Dave Clarke, ninth, and Julian Goater, 18th. Organisers said Sebastian Coe, Britain's 800 metre, 1,000 metre and one mile world record holder, had decided not to take part.

Alberto Salazar, the Cuban-born U.S. marathon runner who set the world's fastest time for the event when he won the New York marathon last October, will not take part. Salazar was narrowly beaten into second place last Sunday.

Veteran Mirtus Yifter will wear Ethiopia's distinctive green vest alongside Wedajo Bulte, Dereje Nedi, Esbetu Tura, and Berharu Girma and their compatriots who won the men's team championship in Rome.

Maricica Puica, Romania's surprise winner of the women's championship ahead of compatriot Fita Lovin and Norwegian Grete Waitz, has declined an invitation to take part in the Five Mills race, the organisers said.

Honour is at stake in the boat race

LONDON (R)—Thousands of Britain's diehard sportsmen, schoolboys, nostalgic politicians and the merely curious will jostle for places on the banks of London's River Thames Saturday to watch an historical pantomime.

The occasion is the annual boat race between England's oldest universities, Oxford and Cambridge. The crowds are drawn not so much by their fascination for 128 years of rowing rivalry as the secret hope that one of the crews might sink. Cambridge did, in ignominious style, four years ago.

Honour is at stake and Oxford have rubbed salt in the wounds by winning for a record six years in a row. Last year they even introduced a woman cox to the helm for the first time, sending shock waves through this one-time bastion of male sport.

Sue Brown will be steering again this year. But perhaps more attention will be paid further up the Oxford boat to the giant Boris Rankov, who hopes to set a race record by rowing in his fifth successive victory.

Rankov, the bespectacled son of a Yugoslav, is the oldest and biggest of the Oxford crew, weighing almost 95 kilogramme.

He equalled last year's previous record of four victories in one of the Dark Blue's most powerful displays of strength and rhythm. In January, he decided to come out of retirement at the age of 27 for another crack at Cambridge's overall lead of 68-56.

Although Cambridge's last victory came when most of the present crew were still at school, the Light Blues can be more optimistic this year. They have vastly improved under the coaching of Graeme Hall who helped Britain to a silver medal in the Moscow Olympics.

Earlier this week, Cambridge beat a national light-weight crew and went on to set a record along one stretch of the Thames. But London bookmakers still favour Oxford.

The climax of months of hard training will be watched by millions at home on television and be over in less than 20 minutes.

Pele tips 4 favourites for World Cup finals

LONDON (R)—Pele, one of the most famous names in soccer, tipped two South American and two European teams as his favourites in the World Cup finals starting in June.

"It is very hard to say who will win," the winner of two World Cup medals said, but named his own country Brazil, Argentina, West Germany and hosts Spain as the teams to watch.

Pele, here for a soccer promotional event, also chose Belgium as strong outsiders: "I very much like the way Belgium play. I think this year may be Belgium's."

Pele, who made his name with a devastating appearance at the age of 17 when Brazil won the Cup in

Sweden in 1958 and helped them to victory again in 1970 in Mexico, was less hopeful about England's chances, saying they had a lot to prove as did Kevin Keegan who is "maybe in his last World Cup."

As swift with words as he was on his feet, Pele dealt neatly when asked to compare Diego Maradona, the new soccer sensation from Argentina, with himself at the height of his career.

"You have only one Beethoven, but many good musicians. Only one Muhammad Ali, but many good boxers... maybe Maradona will be a very good player, or better, but different to Pele. I played my first game for Brazil when I was 16."

Rubik Cube championship date announced

BUDAPEST, Hungary (A.P.)—The first Rubik's Cube world championship will be held here June 5, organisers of the event said Friday.

They said national champions from 30 countries have been invited to compete in the contest, which will be judged by the Hungarian inventor of the cube, Erno Rubik, and an international jury.

The previously announced championship will comprise three rounds, with the fastest overall time taking the title, the Organisers said.

Camels sweat for '82 cars

BAHRAIN (A.P.)—Latest model petrol-guzzlers were the top prizes Friday in a two-day race featuring history's most reliable and economic travellers—camels.

About 450 thoroughbred camels, owned mostly by the ruling United Arab Emirates family, Saudi, Qatar, Bahrain and local UAE dignitaries, participated in event, held at the Dubai Camel Race Track.

Owners followed the racers closely in their own cars along the 10-kilometre track. Most of the jockeys were teenagers.

Thursday's eight races—with 45 camels participating in each—were the top story in Friday's editions of the UAE English-language daily Khaleej Times.

Saroukh (rocket), Jamra (fireball) and Sayha (tourist) were among the leaders vying for the pot, comprised mainly of latest model cars and some cash prizes, according to the report.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
© 1981 by Chicago Tribune

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ KQ872 ♥ J9 ♦ J62 ♠ AQ5
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠
Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q75 ♥ J9 ♦ KJ643 ♠ Q84
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A87 ♥ KJ1062 ♦ J9 ♠ KQ9
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 93 ♥ J752 ♦ AK984 ♠ K10
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AKQJ7 ♥ 74 ♦ AJ8 ♠ QJ6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q76 ♥ A10952 ♦ 643 ♠ K5
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♥ 1 ♠
?
What do you bid now?

FEMALE SECRETARY WANTED

A leading Jordanian company located in Amman, specialised in Import-Export and tenders trading business, is in a need of a well-qualified female secretary with excellent command of English typing, telex, filing and official work beside correspondence, on a part-time basis. Duty from 08:30 to 14:00, and/or from 15:30 to 18:30. One period, or full-time job (which is preferred).

If interested, please call tel. 78929 for interview, at our offices located at Madaba Street, Middle East Circle, Cairo Amman Bank, Quwaismeh Branch. A. Razzaq & Partners Trading Co. Ltd.

BETRAYAL

The West End "Best Play of the Year" for 1979.

AT THE BRITISH COUNCIL
SUNDAY, 28th March, 8 p.m.
Admission 500 fils

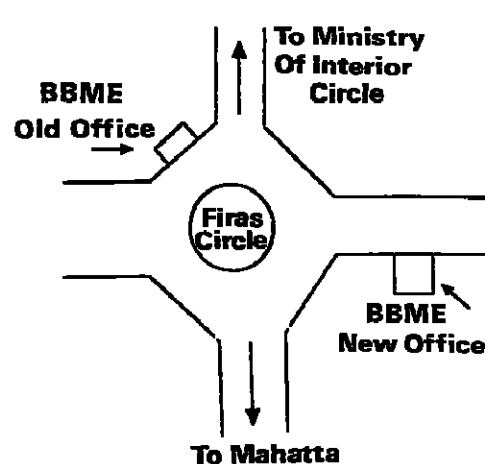
"Pinter has never written a simpler, sadder or funnier play" — Daily Telegraph.

The British Bank of the Middle East

Notice to Customers

We are pleased to announce to our customers that with effect from Saturday 27 March 1982 The British Bank of the Middle East, Mahatta Branch will transfer all its business to its new premises at Jebel Hussein (Al Jalil Street, near Firas Circle).

Our customers can rest assured that we will continue to provide them with a first class service.



New Address:

The British Bank Of The Middle East

Tel. 33601 P.O. Box 922376

Jebel Hussein

FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED BUILDING FOR RENT

A three-storey building, suitable for companies' offices. Car park and telephone available.

Location: Shmeisani
Call 66301

El Concorde Ltd.

FOR ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

VACANCIES

Project: Electrical Works for Yarmouk University Infrastructure I which includes diesel power plant, outdoor 33KV substation, 11KV distribution network, street lighting.

Site: Main Campus of Yarmouk University

Positions:

1. Project Manager: Electrical Power Engineer with at least 5 years of experience in similar projects.
2. Electrical Power engineers with experience in power systems.
3. Electrical Foreman - 33KV substations.
4. Electrical Foreman - Electrification projects.
5. Electricians - 33KV substations & switchgear
6. Electricians - H.V. cabling
7. Electricians - Street lighting
8. Camp administrator

Also we have the following vacancies in the main office in Amman:

9. Commercial Assistant - University degree in commerce.
10. Secretary - Preferable university graduate.
11. Draughtsman
12. Driver - high school

Kindly write to P.O. Box 926638, Amman, enclosing your CV, or contact telephones 63962 & 68079

FOR RENT

Ground-floor apartment consisting of three bed rooms, two baths, two salons, one living room, kitchen, and one unplanted garden.

Location: beside Al Bustan Restaurant, Jordan University Road.
For full information, please contact tel. no. 36871, Mr. Ghazi.

ATURES

Capsula encapsulates the philosophy of a designer

By Rupert Cornwell

MONCALIERI — The grey and white polystyrene model on the table looks like a passenger bus shrunk to the dimensions of a car. The chassis barely clears the ground, but the vehicle seems as if it might be as tall as the traditional London taxi. "Do you realise," said Sig Giorgetti Giugiaro, his hand quickly sketching out the shape on a sheet off a nearby memo pad, "that a car like this would be as short as a Volkswagen Golf but have more room than a Mercedes 500?"

The model in question is a miniature of the "capsula", a concept for the passenger car of the future, of which a full-scale mock-up will be on display at the Turin motor show next month (April). And the Capsula, one might say, encapsulates the philosophy of a man who is increasingly regarded as the leading car and industrial designer of Italy, and perhaps the world.

The names alone of Italian coachbuilders — Pininfarina, Bertone, Ghia and Zagato — convey luxury and beauty for those who can afford the best. Giugiaro on the other hand has ushered in a new era in Italian design, by harnessing more than ever before the country's instinctive genius for style to the practical, everyday needs of the mass market.

He has been responsible for his fair share of Maseratis, Ferraris and the like. But a place in motor history is assured by his influence on the development of the ordinary family car.

Sig Giugiaro has been earning his living from industrial design since he was taken on at the age of

17 by Fiat's Centro Stile in Turin. From there he moved first to Bertone, then to Ghia, before setting up on his own in 1968. His company, Italdesign, is housed in a flat, hangar-like building at Moncalieri, a few miles south of the city. Unlike Pininfarina and Bertone, which have separate manufacturing operations, the company has concentrated exclusively on design.

The first big popular success of Sig Giugiaro and Italdesign was the Alfard, launched back in 1971. Then came the Passat, Golf and Scirocco family for Volkswagen, which not only helped rescue West Germany's biggest motor company but heralded Sig Giugiaro's arrival as a force beyond Italy's frontiers.

More recently, Fiat has leaned heavily on Italdesign for its model range. The Panda Utility is his, as is the Lancia Delta, while the eagerly awaited Tipo Uno, due to be unveiled at the end of this year as a replacement for the Fiat 127, was largely conceived by Giugiaro.

Sig Giugiaro's art lies almost in

the concealment of art. "I start with basic economic considerations, what people want and need. The important thing is that what I design is practical and works. The aesthetics come later." In any case, he says, "aesthetics are something in constant development. A new design, a new fashion, starts off by being accepted by an elite, then everyone gets used to them."

The idea extends to other fields. Sig Giugiaro has designed cameras and sunglasses for Nikon, electric razors for Philips and sewing machines for Italy's Necchi concern. Italdesign is currently working on a project for the municipality of Turin, to revamp the city's amenities. If it goes through, Italy's industrial capital will have Giugiaro-designed litterbins, traffic lights, road signs and even children's games in its parks.

But cars still account for 90 per cent of his work and that of the 200 stylists and engineers working flat out at Italdesign. Design is one part of the car industry that has, if anything, benefited from the sector's difficulties, as the importance of a winning idea becomes ever larger. And the Capsula is a logical development of Sig Giugiaro's work to date.

The trend, in an age of speed limits and costly oil, is towards fuel efficiency and comfort. Sig Giugiaro's fundamental idea, of making cars not necessarily longer, but taller, to improve passenger comfort and space, has a brilliant simplicity. The Panda in particular, is a step along the path away from the cramped, low-slung cars of the 1960s and 1970s.

The Capsula carries the process further. "I got the idea from looking at those tourist buses where the luggage is stowed under the passenger section. If you did the same with cars, then you could get a real increase in passenger room. Engineers are now showing that road holding can be the same, even with vehicles higher off the road."

Sig Giugiaro also points to the

appeal of Britain's Range Rover, bought at considerable expense by people who mostly don't really want a cross-country vehicle but one with extra room and visibility in ordinary conditions.

The designer's life, of course, can be frustrating, not least over compromises that have to be made with the car companies, whose money it is that will be spent. Then again, says Sig Giugiaro, "the clients look at my suggestions in the context of today's models, when the design won't be on the streets for four years."

To tackle these problems, a team of mechanics and engineers

work on the industrial and technical implications of a design as it evolves. The process can extend to the construction of a working prototype, costing on average £300 million to £400 million (\$310,700) ready 18 months after the first pencil lines on a drawing board.

Nothing better underlines Sig Giugiaro's relevance to the ordinary world than his success in Japan, that temple of mass production. "If I'm independent today, that's in part thanks to them. I've been working with the Japanese since 1976." That work includes — apart from the Nikon

cameras — the Isuzu Piazza car (now in production) and a design from 1977 that is faithfully reproduced in the Honda City model launched this year.

"I've never been interested in production," he says. "But if this were Japan, there'd be a factory here, too. Of course, Italy with its individualism is stimulating. But if I ever chose anywhere else, I'd go to Japan, where I could do 10 times more. But then again, the fact it is easier there might just send me to sleep."

— Financial Times news feature

She's flying for a living



BONN — When Margrit Orlowski, 25, touched down after her 50th transatlantic flight she had covered the 4,294 km from Gander, Newfoundland, to Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany in 12 hours 51 minutes: A new world record for a single-

engined plane. Ten days earlier she had flown her first world record from Gander to Burges, Belgium. She has been flying single and twin-engined aircraft from America to Europe and Australia for the past three years: Singlehandedly. (Photo: DaD)

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LANUN
MUJOB
PUNACK
TONPHY

Print answer here:

THE &

Yesterday's Jumbles: PIANO FEINT DEBATE BEDBUG
Answer: What a person who cheats on a diet is apt to do—GAIN—IN THE END

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

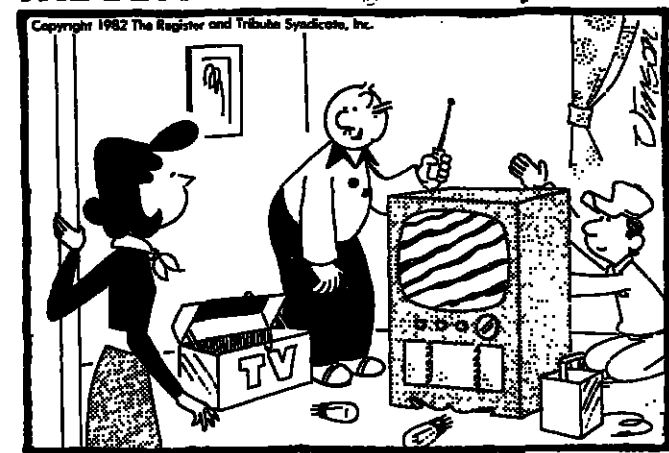
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson



"We're giving it a pre-game physical!"

HOROSCOPE

NOT RECEIVED

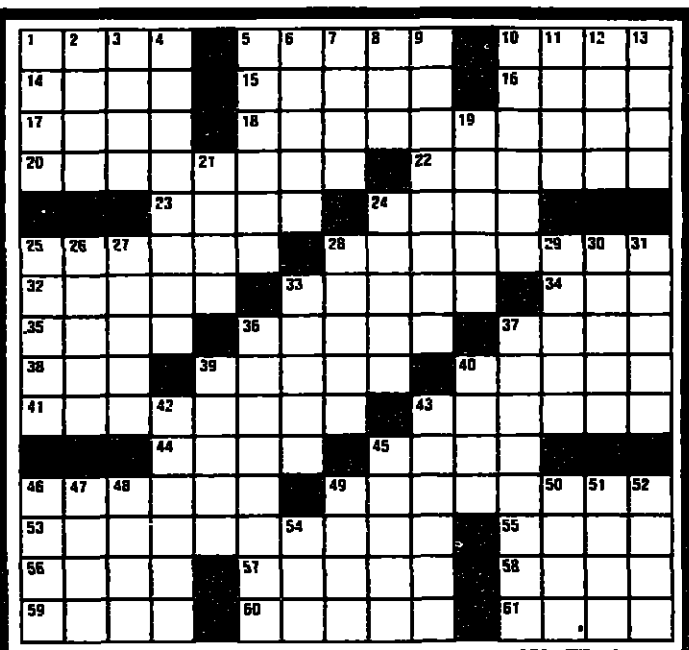
THE Daily Crossword

By James & Phyllis Barrick

ACROSS
1 Impudence
5 Chili con
10 House: Sp.
14 Writer
15 "— a Grecian Urn"
16 Certain
17 City near Lake Tahoe
18 Extend
20 Old Paris
22 Odd thing
23 Ridge on a finger board
24 Secular
25 Reflect
28 Use sparingly
32 Foreign-born resident
34 Support
34 The dawn personified
35 French seaport
36 Babbie
37 Dart
38 — out (supplement)
39 A direction
40 Paper-thin piece
41 Stamp of movies
43 Kitchen gadget
44 Wavy
45 Crow
48 Follow closely
49 Procession
50 of ships
53 Logically
55 Jason's vessel
56 Juneau's state: abbr.
57 Place for elevators
58 Shoe size
59 Obligation
60 In a stupor
61 Plane part
21 Press
24 Reluctant
25 Painter
26 "— like"
27 Kitchen gadget
28 Container
29 Kindled anew
30 Express out loud
31 Chemical compound
32 Dem or Jenner
36 Aquatic plant
37 Glaring
39 Mister, in Madrid
40 Bench
42 Most uncivil
43 Cried like a donkey
45 Pretty girl
46 Great number
47 Pit
48 Captain of fiction
49 Whoa!
50 Diva's specialty
51 Fire: comb. form
52 A Coward man

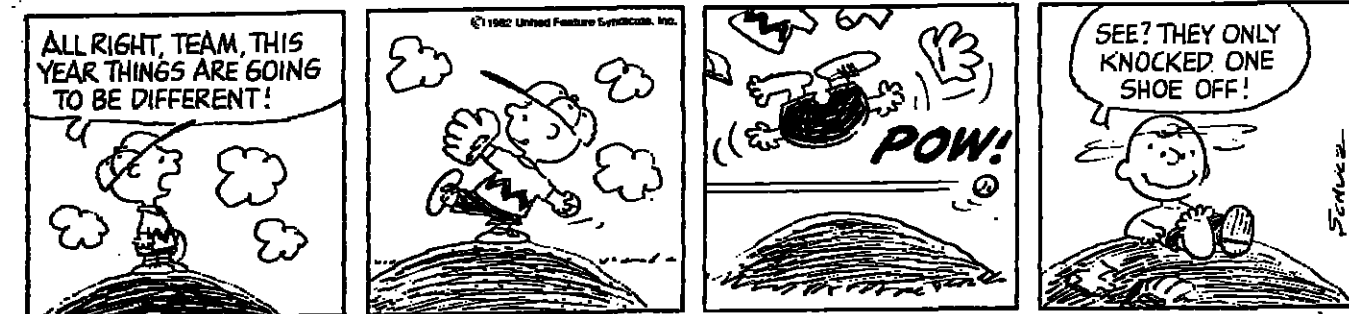
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

TRIAL CALLIF POWIL
TARU ATOLL OBOE
ONCE IN A LIFETIME
RID TALE DELLA
BRIEL DAWN
ALLARIS FLORATORY
BORE DONOR PEA
EVENING WANDERER
NET OILER RISK
ASSIGNED SPTRES
RIED PULP
MAJOR FOOT LOU
YORK OFFER GVEN
SKED WAYNE GAIZA

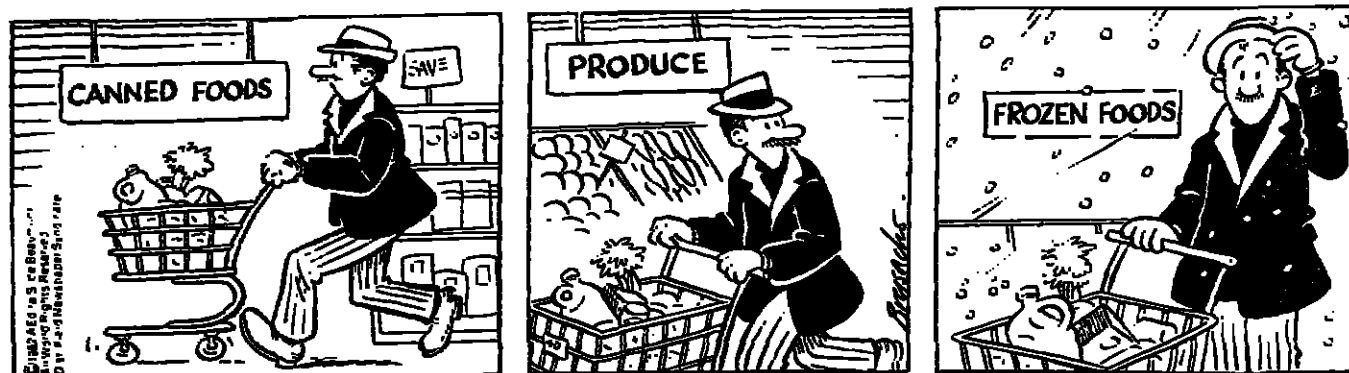


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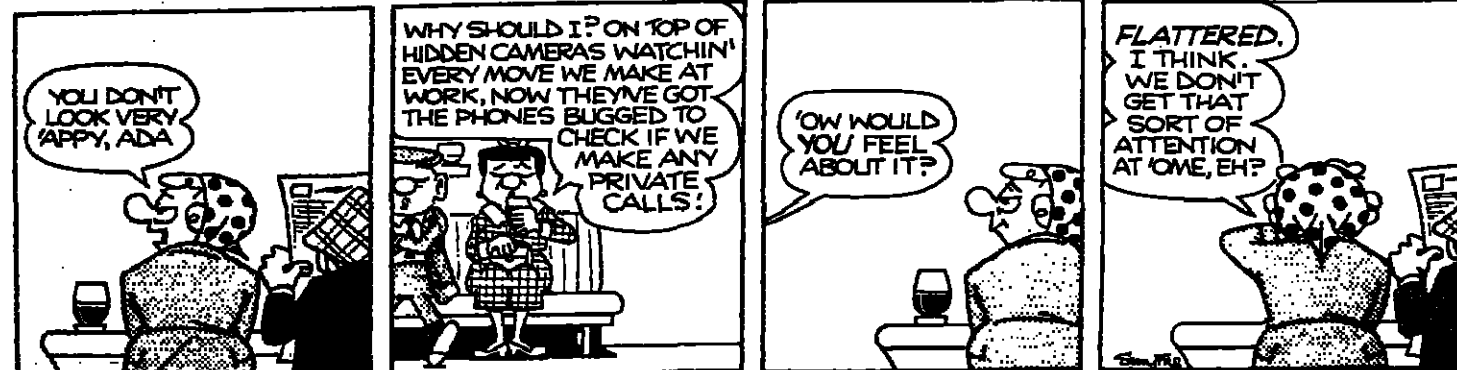
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE

IRBID WATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECT

The Water Supply Corporation, government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Amman, Jordan, requests prequalification data from interested firms from U.S., Jordan, and AID Geographic Code 941 countries who can qualify, through experience with projects of similar type and magnitude, for construction services for three water and sewer contracts in the city of Irbid. Construction services will include equipment and material purchase, delivery, installation, startup, and one-year maintenance period. Each contract will be bid separately. A nearly simultaneous construction period is anticipated for each contract, from December 1982 through December 1984. Contracts are as follows:

1. A 12,000 cubic metre per day wastewater treatment plant utilising trickling filters and the activated sludge process, with an anaerobic sludge digester and sludge drying beds for dewatering. Other major facilities will include bar screens, grit chambers, clarifiers, thickeners, chlorine contact tanks, electrical distribution equipment, graphic display panel and a 1,400-square-metre operations building.
2. Pressure water mains and pressure reducing valve stations to upgrade the existing water distribution system in the southern and western sectors of the city of Irbid, totalling approximately 39 km. of predominantly 100 to 250 mm. pressure pipe and nine pressure reducing stations. Interceptor, trunk and lateral gravity sanitary sewers in the same area of the city totalling approximately 68 km. and predominantly 200 mm. Also, one package pump station and 420 metres of force main.
3. Pressure water mains and pressure reducing valve stations to upgrade the existing water distribution system in the northern and eastern sectors of the city of Irbid, totalling approximately 27 km. of predominantly 100 to 25 mm. pressure pipe and five pressure reducing stations. Interceptor, trunk and lateral gravity sanitary sewers in the same area of the city totalling approximately 48 km. and predominantly 200 mm.

Unless otherwise specified, all goods and services for this project shall have their nationality, source and origin in the United States, Jordan and AID Geographic Code 941 countries. Certain mechanical and electrical equipment will be required to be of U.S. source and origin.

The project will be jointly financed by A.I.D. under AID Loan No. 278-K-028 and the government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Firms will be paid in U.S. dollars and Jordanian Dinars. Combination unit-price and lump-sum contracts are anticipated.

Prequalification questionnaire (request two copies) and additional information may be obtained from H.E. Director General, Water Supply Corporation, P.O. Box 5012, Amman, Jordan or from Weston International, Inc., Weston Way, West Chester, PA. 19380, U.S.A. Attention: Mr. Bradford S. Cushing.

For the due performance of each contract, the successful bidder will be required to submit a guarantee. Applicants must therefore submit with the completed questionnaire a statement defining the total value of guarantees available to them and give names of banks willing to provide a guarantee. If a joint venture seeks qualification, qualification information must be supplied for all firms in the joint venture, or major subcontractors. Applicants must also name and provide information on major subcontractors. The deadline for receipt of the questionnaires is May 2, 1982. Two copies must be sent to the Water Supply Corporation at the above address.

After reviewing the questionnaires, the Water Supply Corporation will establish qualified firms to whom invitations for bids will be issued. Estimated date of availability of invitations for bids is June 15, 1982, estimated bid opening date is September 15, 1982.

WORLD

Experts study minor communications problem

Columbia continues space experiments

HOUSTON (R) — Astronauts Jack Lousma and Gordon Fullerton Friday fired their space shuttle's manoeuvring rockets while experts on the ground studied a problem of communications.

The astronauts, feeling fine after becoming accustomed to the lack of gravity, also continued scientific experiments on their fifth day in orbit.

The rocket test firings were intended to demonstrate that the engines would work properly after being exposed to the bitter cold of space, minus 200 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 130 C).

One of the major objectives of

the orbiter's seven-day mission, its third in space, is to show how well it works in the temperature extremes of space. In the sun, the temperature can soar to 200 degrees Fahrenheit (90 C).

Mission officials said they were not really concerned about an apparent failure of part of the space shuttle's communication system, because communications would work well without that part.

The shuttle has two complete communications systems and officials at the Johnson Space Centre here said Thursday night that as long as they had one complete system and part of the other they would continue with the mission as planned.

The leader of the communications specialists studying the problem said they thought it was related to a computer programming problem and not really an equipment failure.

Apart from firing the manoeuvring rockets, the astronauts also used the shuttle's remote-controlled mechanical arm to lift an instrument package out of the payload bay to examine the environment around the ship.

Peking cold shoulders Brezhnev's peace offer

PEKING (R) — China Friday reacted coolly to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's call for an end to bitter hostility between the Communist giants, indicating that relations would improve only if Moscow alters its policies.

Western diplomatic sources noted that an official Chinese statement did not respond directly to Mr. Brezhnev's call for better relations, focusing instead on the Soviet leader's criticism of China.

One source called the statement "very curt and discouraging," and said it offered little hope of a rapprochement between Moscow and Peking after 20 years of deep enmity.

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said his government had noted President Brezhnev's call, made during a speech given by the Kremlin leader in the Soviet Asian city of Tashkent.

The Chinese spokesman added:

"We firmly reject the attacks on China contained in the remarks. 'In Sino-Soviet relations and international affairs, what we attach importance to are the actual deeds of the Soviet Union.'"

Diplomats said the reference to "actual deeds" indicated that China would consider a thaw in Sino-Soviet relations only if Moscow made concrete concessions to Peking over foreign policy or bilateral relations.

Major points of difference include the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, the longstanding Sino-Soviet border dispute and Soviet influence in Indochina.

Diplomats said recent Chinese attacks on the Soviet Union had been as intense as ever despite the cooling of Peking's relations with the United States as a result of American plans to sell further fighter planes to Taiwan.

Ankara denies violating Aegean

ANKARA (A.P.) — Turkey Friday denied Greek allegations that its military aircraft had violated its Aegean neighbour's airspace during recent navy and air force exercises.

A Turkish note to this effect was verbally relayed to the consul of the Greek embassy in Ankara, foreign ministry spokesman Nazmi Akman told reporters.

The Greek government protested Turkey's flight of Turkish military jets over its islands.

The protests led to a sharp retort by Turkey's Premier Bulend Uysal two weeks ago.

India considers buying improved MiG fighters

NEW DELHI (R) — India is considering acquiring an improved version of the Soviet-built MiG aircraft, Defence Minister Ramaswami Venkatarman told parliament Friday.

He said that in a meeting with Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov here last week: "We discussed about the possibility, the need and the arrangement for getting the improved and latest versions of equipment and the MiG family of aircraft."

The Indian air force already has MiG-21 and MiG-23 aircraft and these have been joined recently by some MiG-25 reconnaissance aircraft known to NATO as "Foxbat."

Mr. Venkatarman, speaking

during a debate on the defence budget, did not identify the type of MiG currently under consideration.

The Soviet Union is India's main arms supplier though New Delhi in recent years has diversified its purchases, opting for the Anglo-French Jaguar strike aircraft and West German submarines. Negotiations are currently under way for the purchase of the French Mirage 2000 combat plane.

Marshal Ustinov pledged during a five-day visit to New Delhi at the head of a military delegation that Moscow would continue to meet India's defence requirements.

E. Berlin prepares for visit of Jaruzelski

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's official media Friday urged citizens to line the streets of East Berlin on Monday to greet Poland's military ruler, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, in a demonstration of support for his martial law policies.

Gen. Jaruzelski's visit, now expected to last a single day as did his trip to Moscow at the beginning of the month, will be the second stop in what appears to be turning into a triumphal tour of Poland's East European allies following the suppression of the free trade union Solidarity.

The official press published a map of the route he will take through the city from Schoenefeld Airport to the government guest house of Niederschoenhofen, and urged the people to prepare a hearty welcome for "the representatives of our Polish brother nation."

Posters of Gen. Jaruzelski and East German Communist Party leader Erich Honecker appeared in shop windows, while Polish, East German and plain red flags hung from every lamppost and public building on the route.

Large hoardings proclaimed: "The alliance between Poland and the German Democratic Republic — an important factor for peace in Europe."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Pentagon notifies Congress on sale of F-16s to Egypt

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. Defence Department has notified Congress of a proposal to sell Egypt 40 F-16 tactical fighter aircraft and 220 M-60A3 tanks, according to a press memorandum from the Pentagon. Total cost of the planes, including auxiliary and support equipment and spare parts, was estimated at \$1,400 million. Value of the tanks, including 23 tank recovery vehicles, equipment, ammunition, spare parts and training, was estimated at \$426 million.

Israel prepares Yamit evacuation

YAMIT, Occupied Sinai (A.P.) — The Israeli army brought tractors, bulldozers and other heavy equipment into this town Friday in readiness for its evacuation next week. About 50 truckloads of household effects left Yamit, bound for the homes that residents of the town will occupy after their evacuation. But some 200 opponents of the withdrawal arrived at Yamit to bolster the die-hard settlers who have vowed to fight the pullback. Yamit and a dozen surrounding farm settlements built by Israel are to be abandoned when the area is returned to Egypt under the terms of the peace treaty.

U.S. admits contacts with Iraq on Israeli arms supplies to Iran

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has acknowledged it had talked to Iraq about reports of Israeli arms transfers to Iran and said it was against sending weapons to either side in the Iran-Iraq war. The Washington Post reported from Baghdad Thursday that Iraq had protested several times to the United States about Israel's reported supply of arms and military equipment to Iran, asking the Reagan administration to order Israel to end the shipments. Asked about the report, State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said Iraq had raised reports of arms shipments "from time to time."

W. Germany reports Syrian suspects

STUTTGART (R) — West Germany has deported three Syrians suspected of preparing attacks on exiled supporters of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, the Stuttgart prosecutor's office said Friday. The move was linked with threats of reprisals made against West German citizens and installations in the Middle East if the men, arrested in Stuttgart on March 1, were not released, the office said. A foreign ministry spokesman, who declined to give details, said the West German school and two German-run institutes in Beirut were temporarily closed on security grounds this week. Bonn's ambassador in Beirut, Horst Schmidt Dornedden, had since returned to Bonn to report on the situation, he said. The prosecutor's office said investigations showed the three men had probably been planning to attack Syrian supporters in West Germany of the Muslim Brotherhood, which has mounted armed uprisings against the government of President Hafez Al Assad.

Barre attacks Libya

BONN (R) — Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre has described Libya as the home of world terrorists and said he had advised many African leaders not to attend the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Tripoli. Asked about the summit at a news conference after two days of talks with West German Government and industrial leaders, the president said: "I know many heads of state don't want to go." He said he believed some were urging an extraordinary OAU meeting to review the site of the conference, provisionally set for June. "I will not be going," he said. "I have advised many Africans not to go, in the interests of Africa and world peace. Libya is the home of world terrorists."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Anti-aircraft cannon stolen in W. Germany

BONN (R) — Thieves have stolen a 20-millimetre anti-aircraft cannon from a sealed railway truck in a freight depot at Emden in northern Germany, a defence ministry spokesman said Thursday night. He said the thieves broke into the wagon on the night of March 11 and stole the three-metre long barrel and breech of the gun after dismantling the weapon from its base. He declined to comment on a report in the mass-circulation Bild newspaper, which said security officials feared the theft was carried out by urban guerrillas. Bild said the officials noted that a NATO summit conference was scheduled to take place in Bonn in June which U.S. President Ronald Reagan was due to attend. It said security experts warned the West German government several weeks ago of the possibility of guerrilla attacks on conference participants. The defence ministry spokesman said the type of gun stolen had been in service with German forces for at least 10 years, indicating that the theft involved no loss of secrets.

Twin test-tube babies born in Canada

OAKVILLE, Ontario (R) — A 35-year-old Canadian woman gave birth Thursday to twin test-tube boys, believed to be the first twins in North America conceived outside the womb, hospital officials said. Kit Rankin gave birth a few weeks prematurely at the hospital in this town near Toronto, where officials said they were all doing well. The babies, who weighed 3.18 kilograms and 2.84 kilograms, were conceived last July when Mrs. Rankin and her husband Ian visited the clinic of doctors Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards, pioneers of the technique, in Oldham, England. Two eggs were removed from Mrs. Rankin, fertilised with her husband's sperm in a glass dish and implanted in her womb again. The world's first test-tube baby was born at the clinic four years ago. About 30 test-tube babies, including one pair of twins, have been born in several countries since then. The Rankin twins were the first test-tube babies born in Canada.

Two Soviets sentenced to death for murder

MOSCOW (A.P.) — Two brothers were sentenced to death by a Soviet court for murdering one of the man's wife and her girlfriend, a Soviet newspaper reported Friday. The newspaper Soviet Culture (Sovetskaya Kultura) did not say whether the two men have been executed yet, but said there was no appeal possible against the verdict. Executions in the Soviet Union are carried out by firing squad. The newspaper said that Viktor Basov, 22, and his 26-year-old brother Nikolai used hatchets to kill Mr. Viktor's wife Rimma and her friend Ira Bresskaya. They then set fire to the apartment to destroy the evidence, but were caught less than ten hours after the murder. Soviet Culture said, adding that the crime was planned last December and carried out in January.

Hostesses warned breasts could explode

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian airline hostesses have been warned that if they have surgery to improve their cleavage, their breasts could explode in flight. The Airlines Hostesses Association magazine Arielle said in its latest edition that the U.S. American Medical Association had warned American stewardesses who have had silicone implants to enlarge their breasts that the implants could explode at high altitudes. "It seems that the silicone implant might expand like a balloon to two or three times its normal size with sudden changes of pressure," the magazine said. No such mid-flight explosions have been reported so far.

Extremists attack Bombay U.S. consulate

NEW DELHI (R) — Guards shot dead one person Thursday after a group of rightwing extremists attacked the U.S. consulate in the western Indian city of Bombay, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. The news agency said 21 people were arrested after several cars were set on fire and some of the consulate's windows broken. PTI quoted police as saying a breakaway group of the militant regional Shiv Sena organisation was behind the attack.

ETA kills another in San Sebastian

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (A.P.) — Basque separatists ambushed and killed the local representative of the telephone company and gravely wounded his police escort in San Sebastian Friday, authorities said.

He was the fourth person killed in northern Spain this week by the Basque separatist organisation ETA, police said.

Reagan explains policy to Pertini

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has explained his Central American policy to Italian President Sandro Pertini and was told Italians were concerned and divided over the conflict in El Salvador.

Mr. Pertini, who has criticised the tough U.S. policy toward Salvadoran leftists, listened without replying to Mr. Reagan's explanation, senior administration officials said.

Because Mr. Pertini is not head of government, Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo replied in a way appearing to give qualified support.

The officials said Mr. Colombo told Mr. Reagan Italian opinion of events in El Salvador and the elections on Sunday was divided.

But he said the Italian government understood why the United States supported the elections, which are opposed by guerrillas challenging the U.S.-backed junta in El Salvador.

The officials said Mr. Colombo strongly supported Mr. Reagan's Caribbean development plan as a way to alleviate social and economic problems which have created political disaffection in countries such as El Salvador.

Mr. Colombo suggested European nations should support Mr. Reagan's plan and take part in its implementation, the officials said.

The two presidents were joined by Mr. Colombo, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, National Security Adviser William Clark and other officials after a private meeting.

The officials said the talks went extremely well because Italy and the United States agreed on important world issues such as Poland, Afghanistan and the Middle East.

Nicaragua junta leader offers to meet Reagan

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega Saavedra has urged a peaceful settlement for Central America and said he is ready to meet President Reagan.

In the U.N. Security Council Thursday he accused the United States of plotting to invade his country.

The Nicaraguan junta coordinator called for a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis and a ban on acts of force or military threats in the region.

Then at a press conference he told reporters, "We have expressed our willingness to speak with President Reagan any time. If we have that opportunity here, of course immediately we would speak with President Reagan."

In the United Nations, U.S. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick expressed firm opposition to the

Security Council adopting any resolution on Nicaragua's invasion allegation.

"Our government would be very much opposed to an action by the Security Council on the Nicaraguan question. We do not believe this is an appropriate arena," she said.

Ambassador Kirkpatrick called Nicaragua's charges "extravagant and baseless."

Nicaragua's Sandinista leadership was trying to subvert and overthrow neighbouring governments, she said. A prime target was El Salvador, where the U.S.-backed Junta is battling guerrillas attempting to block national elections on Sunday.

As well as playing a key role in the Nicaragua debate, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, as council president for March, is heavily involved in the rest of the council's work.

Liberal leader David Steel said: "No seat in the country is now safe from the challenge of the alliance."

Mr. Jenkins moved swiftly Friday to shore up the alliance, recently under strain, by driving 110 kilometres to address the Scottish Liberal Party's annual conference.

Friday was the first anniversary of the Social Democratic party, which Mr. Jenkins and three other former ministers founded after breaking away from the opposition Labour Party in alarm at its drift to the radical left.

While exuding confidence about his prospects Friday Mr. Jenkins told a news conference he

did not want to make any rash forecasts about the choice of party leader.

But Mr. Jenkins, the Oxford-educated son of a Welsh coal miner, made clear that nothing had changed since he said earlier this year that he would not turn down the chance of becoming prime minister.

He said after the result of the voting was declared that he wanted to offer a new choice and a new hope to the people of Britain.

"If that involves me being prime

minister, I'm not going to say no," he said.

His election as leader would give the SDP a more right-wing complexion than the choice of his main rivals David Owen and Shirley Williams.

Mr. Jenkins also has more stature and experience in government, being a former chancellor of the exchequer (finance minister) and home secretary (interior minister) and EEC Commission president from 1977 to 1980.

Some other politicians are also lying low but the leader of the opposition Avon Valley Party, Kamal Hossain, denied reports that the party chief, Mrs. Hasina Wazed, had been arrested.

Regulations announced by Gen. Ershad as chief martial law administrator provide for the death penalty or life imprisonment for corruption and other offences.

Gen. Ershad, who is

commander-in-chief of the armed forces, has made the anti-corruption drive the main concern of his new administration.

Those officials and others who have large properties will have to explain before the courts how they came by their wealth, authoritative sources said.

They added that many people are in hiding for fear of arrest and interrogation.

Four ex-ministers are already in detention although no charges have been announced against them.

Gen. Ershad is expected to announce the name of a new figurehead president soon.

Radio Bangladesh said Friday Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev had sent a message of congratulations to Gen. Ershad on the occasion of the country's independence day.

The radio quoted the Soviet leader's message as saying that the friendship and cooperation established between their two countries would be further developed to their mutual benefit.

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has acknowledged it had talked to Iraq about reports of Israeli arms transfers to Iran and said it was against sending weapons to either side in the Iran-Iraq war. The Washington Post reported from Baghdad Thursday that Iraq had protested several times to the United States about Israel's reported supply of arms and military equipment to Iran, asking the Reagan administration to order Israel to end the shipments. Asked about the report, State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said Iraq had raised reports of arms shipments "from time to time."

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